March 18, 1960

Mr.Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

Under separate cover I have sent you a group of 23 Woods pieces for study. I have to go to my safe deposit box for the other ones. I also returned your 1775 counterfeit which is not Machins Mills.

As to the Ryder 27 slide and the 52-G slide, I did not ask for them. I thought it would be interesting to compare the outlines to see if they were from the same punches.

Please forgive me for not sending you the Machins Mills pectures but they will be forthcoming somehow.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

39 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

March 14, 1960

Mr. Eric Newman
Edison Bros. Stores
400 Washington Ave.
St. Louis, Mo.

Hi Eric,

George Fuld was just over the house and told me that you wanted my address. Well, I wanted to send you this funky coin that I picked up and find out whether it is a Machin Mills product or just another counterfeit. My guess is that it is the latter, but just making sure.Anyhow, now you have my address.

I haven't written to Mrs Norweb yet about the Wood's pieces. Ken Rendell, who knows Mrs.Norweb pretty well suggested that he write to her first as a sort of introduction. Seeing as how the group of us couldn't find a better solution at the time I figure that his way is as good as any. Nothing ventured, nothing gained I always say.

I am in the process of also having a slide of my Vermont Ryder 27 which you did ask of me. The one in my collection is at least a very fine so I imagine you will get all the detail you will need. This is a Machin's product also isn't it? Did you want one of the Connecticut 52-G? I know we talked of it and you suggested I make one up, but was this for you?

And once again I am rewriting the Washingtons, only this time I am also renumbering the system into something a little more logical than the hopscotching we ended up doing. I'll send you or George will send you a copy when this is all done.

Well, enough of the gab for now. When the letters are rather short then one will take the pains to read them, otherwise it can get rather forgotten. Write when you have the chance.

Sincerely,

Bob

Robert A. Vlack

3/11/60

2	1722 Wood's Halfpenny - Harp to right
2	1722 Wood's Halfpenny - Harp to left
14	1723 Wood's Halfpenny
2	1723 Wood's Farthing
1	1723 Wood's 1/4 Penny ~~- Harp to left~~
1	1724 Wood's Farthing
1	1724 Wood's 1/2 Penny
23	

39 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

May 7, 1960

Mr. Eric Newman
Edison Brothers Stores
400 Washington Ave.
St. Louis, Mo.

Dear Eric,

After long last I am finally sending back the coins you have so graciously sent me for purposes of adding to my list. I have also photographed them for future plates upon completion of this description stage. Actually this is the reason that my sending them back took so long. The first set of prints came out pretty sad, and I had to line up the photographer for another rerun, and naturally this was at his convenience.

There are a few things I want to mention about the coins which I am pretty sure would be of interest to you. First of all you have a blunder on one of the farthings. Take a look at the 1723 1.5a^{2}-K.9d^{1} farthing and you will notice that the 2nd G is cut over an A. I haven't seen anything like this before. You also have a duplicate which if possible I would like to purchase for myself if this is all right with you. You have two 3.6i^{3}-K.9k^{1} 1723 Halfpenny's. Last but not least, I took the liberty of brushing the coins prior to photography. I didn't polish them or use anything abrasive, just a brush similar to the type the Empire Coin Co. uses. Matter of fact, I received the brush from them.

Oddly enough, there were very few duplicates between you and I. If you ever would care to dispose of these please keep my name in mind, because I would like to have them, especially in the nice condition these are in. I know this is only wishful thinking on my part. Between you and I, so far, I have 65 different coins classified now. Phil Keller is already sending his inputs and that should about double the amount and really send this book well on its way. I think that if and when I ever get Mrs. Norweb's coins then I feel we have about exhausted the varieties to quite some extent. I'm still not going to rush it though.

Eric, I'm also taking the liberty to send you this Fugio for your opinion. It was sold to me as a 19-Z, but somehow I don't quite believe it. The 19 is alright but the Z bothers me. I know the reverse is pretty sad but maybe you have some coins to check it against for further proof. Anyhow, nothing ventured, nothing gained. Even an opinion is better than nothing. I would like to get from you a nice set of the plates of the Fugios. The ones in your book on Fugio's are really poor and I can't distinguish one coin from another. I'm also waiting patiently for the set of Machin Mill's plates.

George Fuld was just over here for our last get-together prior to his departure to Europe and he ask me to send his regards to you. (I told him I was sending your coins back).

Well, enough is enough. I want to thank you very much for sending these coins to me and for being so patient in waiting for them. I'm sure I would have said something much sooner than this if I were in your shoes. I hope also that I haven't done anything to them that might displease you in any way. I treated them as if they were my own. If there is any way in which I can ever return the favor please don't hesitate to let me know.

I'll close here hoping to hear from you soon.

Very sincerely,

Bob

Robert A. Vlack

P.S. I hope you didn't mind my putting the better coins in Richards envelopes. I didn't mean anything sacrilegious by it. I had these laying around and thought they might protect the coins during handling. They are also a constant reminder of something foolish that I had once done so it is just as well that they are gone.

39 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

July 25, 1960

Dear Eric,

I'm very disappointed that I haven't heard from you for so long now. It seems that everyone around here is getting mail from you except me. You've neither confirmed that you received your Wood's pieces from me or let me know whether or not you've done the checking on the Fugio 19-? for me. It's been well over 3 months.

I heard that you were going to Africa and at first I thought that this was the reason, but Al Hoch just heard from you and I guess this wasn't it. Anyhow, if you don't care to do the Fugio just drop it in an envelope and I'll try elsewhere.

The research on the Wood's book is progressing very well. Phil Keller joined forces with me, and between the two of us this job will be a lot easier. I think Mrs. Norweb is also going to allow us to see and use her coins as well. She has the book now and I imagine this will determine whether or not she will be interested. I'll know very shortly.

I guess that's it for now. I guess all those other items I requested from you will also go by the wayside. Anyhow, send the coin back if nothing else.

Very sincerely,

Bob

Robert A. Vlack

July 29, 1960

Mr. Robert A.Vlack
39 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

Have you lost your sense of humor? I haven't so I will not take what you said seriously. I have the Woods pieces which you returned and they are on my desk, untouched. I have had so much coin research correspondence that I cannot keep up with the work that goes with it. I had to read hundreds of articles for the Numismatist reprint. I am working on Machins Mills, Burntown coinage, the 1804 Dollar, Connecticut coppers, and a few other projects. I am trying to write an introduction to the Standard Catalogue, help on a new book about the United States Mint, help George with the Washington material. I am spread too thin.

I am returning your Fugio copper which is a 19-2, just as you indicated, the circular band having been worn down.

I am going to go away on a vacation but had to cancel the African trip because I could not get a visa to go to the Congo.

I am very pleased that the book on the Woods coinage is progressing.

I have in my library the 1730 edition of the Hibernian Patriot, being a collection of the Drapier's Letters. I am sending this to you for study and you may return it at your convenience.

I will have more material on Woods coinage which I will send you in the fall, if you wish it.

As far as your request for Machins Mills pictures and Fugio pictures, etc. you will have to bear with me. I am only one person. Cheer up and do a good job in your collecting and writing.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

August 1, 1960

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

In my letter of July 29, 1960, I forgot to send you the Wood's piece which you indicated was a duplicate of mine. I am therefore enclosing a 1723 halfpence, about uncirculated condition, your variety No. 36(i)3-K(9)-k(1). You can send me another variety in similar condition of any date whenever you wish. I will not sell any coins. If you want to send me a nice Machins Mills piece in exchange for it, that is okay.

Kind regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

39 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

October 3, 1960

Mr. Eric Newman
Edison Brothers Stores
400 Washington Ave.
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Eric,

Forgive me in the delay in sending you the book back right away. As you can see by the book, I sure made a mess of it somehow and I am truly sorry over it. This is the first time that something like this has happened to me and I really got sick. I knocked it off the desk by accident and you see the results.

I was going to take it to someone who can fix these sort of things and then let you know, but I thought you might have some other ideas on this. At any rate, I accept full responsibility and will pay for whatever it costs to repair this horrible damage. I actually had finished half the book when it happened, and then read no more. Then I was about to write to you to let you know, when I received a letter from Mr. A. Baldwin and he mentioned that you were just over there. He also mentioned that you had talked about the book and for this I am grateful to you.

The book itself has made great strides forward. I have all of Mrs. Norweb; All of Phil Kellers with the exception of the 1723 Halfpence:, yours, and mine which now include over 90 different varieties. The book now includes 149 varieties.

Mrs. Norweb has a copy of the book along with Keller and they both found the book very easy to use, with no recommended changes in the format. By the way the format has changed twice since you have seen it last, each time an improvement.

You mentioned in your letter that you have found a 1733 Rosa Americana, GEORGE II. Do you have it for your collection or does it still belong to the museum? This will be my other project after the Wood's coins. I plan to do the Rosa's, the Mark Newby's, and I have already completed the Voce Populi's.

[redacted]

Very sincerely,

Bob

October 13, 1960

Mr. Robert Black
38 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

The book is repaired, the 1733 Rosa belongs to the museum.

I have some other Wood coins for you to examine in due course.

Keep up the good work.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

E P/atb

53 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

November 7, 1960

Dear Eric,

I received your letter a while back and was happy to know that you are still talking to me after what I had done to your book. You never mentioned that the repair cost you, and I would like to reimburse you for this.

I also want to let you know that I still remember back I did for a wood's piece, and though I have come across some duplicates, I am waiting to find one worthy of the one that you had sent to me. I won't forget.

Again I must mention that the wood's book is coming along with leads and bounds. Thanks to Mr. Baldwin, I found at least 15 new varieties plus many that have either improved upon or that I needed. The total number of varieties now listed is 182, and this has certainly exceeded my expectations. Many people have to be commended upon for their fine support like yourself.

I'm in a position to look at some more of these coins if you are ready to send them. Do one thing for me. I believe you have a 1763 wood's Halfpence that starts with S.0jl. Change that to S.0il, okay. I'm pretty sure that you have this variety.

I'd like to remind you, if I may be so bold, that I had requested a set of the Music pieces from you. I'm sure this must have slipped your mind, but, would it be possible to obtain this from you? The pieces in the book are worthless and I could use this set to great advantage.

Is there anything I can do for you?

Enuf is enuf. I guess that I can expect to hear from shortly if you are going to send the rest of the wood's pieces. Let me know the comments you have. I would also like to hear of your progress on the Fenwick Hills project.

Very sincerely yours,

Bob

39 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

February 13, 1981

Hi Eric,

I haven't heard from you in quite some time now and I was wondering if everything was wrong. In your last letter to me seven I months ago, you mentioned that you were going to send me some more Wood's pieces for possible additions to the book. Does this offer still hold? I mentioned in my last letter to you that I would appreciate your sending them on as I had the time to devote to them, and would be able to send them back right away. As you know, let me know that the status is so I'll know. I also thought of the possibility that you may have sent the coins some time ago, and if they haven't arrived then something is wrong. I hope not.

Not much is new with me except that I am still working on the Wood's book and the total number of varieties has reached 116 different. New varieties has become very scarce now and I feel that perhaps something can be printed within a year providing no new ones turn up. I still have to record the coins in the NE, and other possible additions. I've also made up a new set of Washington plates (4 total) covering the new numbering set-up, of the Military, Draped, & Draped with Torn Button.

Well, I guess that is about it for now. Let me hear from you if all is well.

Sincerely,

Ed

P.S. John Ford has been after me to be the one to publish the Wood's book. I'd certainly like a confidential opinion from you on the idea. I've been on this project for over two years now and it means a lot to me.

February 16, 1961

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street - Jordon Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

I will be in Bostin in the near future and will be glad to call you up and discuss the publication of your Woods book. I will also try to bring the Woods pieces which you still have not seen. I would like to have an answer from you, tho, as to whether you have seen the Woods pieces belonging to the Boyd collection. Did John permit you to examine them, or did they change hands? I would appreciate a direct answer on this matter.

All is well. I am just too busy to breathe.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

38 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Feb. 20, 1961

Hi Eric,

I just received your letter and thought I would answer right away in view of some of the questions you had asked and apparently required an answer right away.

In regard to the Wood's pieces from the Boyd estate, this is all that I know. John Ford had mentioned about a year ago that Mrs Norweb had already contracted for the Wood's pieces prior to his death. She wrote to me just recently and asked if it would be all right if she imposed upon me to classify all of them for her when she got them. Up to now I have not received them, or do I believe she has received them yet either. I'm sure she would have sent them on right away because she has certainly obtained a mania for collecting them lately, especially now that they can become classified. Does this help you out in any way?

I will welcome the opportunity of seeing you while you are here in Boston, if fact, if you can, we would like to have you for dinner as our guest. I would like to mention that I am not at the house until very late on Wednesdays.

Hope to see you very soon.

Very sincerely,

Bob

Robert J. Wieck

P.S. My phone number is JEfferson [redacted]

39 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

March 20, 1961

Hi Eric,

To begin with, I was very disappointed that I didn't get a chance to even talk to you, let alone see you. I had a few items held back that I wanted to talk over with you, especially the Wood's book. I guess it'll have to be done by mail now.

I sent your coins back last Saturday, and you should be receiving them very shortly. Surprisingly enough, there were no new varieties in the bunch, except the silver 1723 Halfpenny, where the variety was known in copper, but not silver. The coins themselves were particularly nice in condition. Would you make me a list of all the Wood's pieces you now possess, for my record. I've recorded this batch, but lost the record of the others.

Question: Is the 1787 Connecticut regarded as a Machin Mills. Variety is 1^2-C, (Muttonhead). I've recently discovered a completely new reverse for this. It has already been written up in the Colonial Newsletter, but Ned mentioned to me that it was a Machins product. Clue me in, okay?

Now about the Wood's book. I'm not sure that the book is ready for publication yet, but I'm trying to gather up as much information about it that I can. John Ford requested to be the publisher, but I feel that he is more talk than action. I've been waiting for his standard catalog for a long time now, but nothing yet. Anyhow, I would appreciate all of your comments on this particular subject, including recommendations. I think I'll be ready to publish about 6 months after no new varieties have been found. That would be around September or October, providing there is nothing new in the Boyd Collection, which is very unlikely. I am going to check the ANS this summer also.

Well, I am going to leave this for now. I also wanted to show you the new WASHINGTON plates in finished form, including the new classification changes. Do you want a set. There are very few out, and it will cost $10.00 for the set. This is only a fair share, I'm not shaking you down. There are 4 large plates, and I am quite proud of them. If you want a set let me know. Thats it, let me hear from you shortly.

Very sincerely,

Bob

Robert A. Vlack

March 29, 1961

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

[redacted]

As you have requested, I am enclosing a list of the first batch of Woods pieces which I sent you.

As to the new reverse which you have discovered for the Muttonhead Connecticut piece, I have not seen it in the News Letter. Is it coming out, or did I miss something. The question of whether this is a Machin's Mills product or not is pure speculation. I think all Connecticut pieces must be construed to be Connecticut Mint pieces unless they are tied in to known Machin's production. Obviously others than Buell made dies for the Connecticut Mint.

As far as the Woods book is concerned, this is a matter which you must determine. I do not know its scope other than the die varieties. I believe it needs some new historical material to make it commercially saleable. If it is a labor of love, then you should have it published in any manner that suits you.

As far as the Washington plates are concerned, I want to do more than my share. If there are enough sold at $10 per set to pay for the project, then there is no problem. If there are not, then my thought was that the net out-of-pocket cost would be divided.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

39 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

March 20, 1961

Hi Eric,

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Very sincerely,

Robert A. Vlack

39 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

May 21, 1961

Eric P. Newman
Edison Brothers Stores
400 Washington Ave.
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Eric,

Thank you for the note on the Robinson Story regarding the 1733 Rosa Americana. I'll save it for future reference when I get going on the Rosa Americana Series.

Enclosed you will find a 1723 Wood's Farthing, which you can use as a variety for your own collection. Some time ago you sent me a duplicate that you had, and you requested that I replace it some time in the future with another of comparitive quality. Though the one you sent me was a 1723 Halfpenny, I'm sure you would have no objection to receiving a farthing in it's place. Also, the one you sent me was extremely fine, and this is also. If you are satisfied with the trade, then I am also. If you are not satisfied, then send it back and I'll try to do better in the future. I just didn't want you to think I might have conveniently forgotten about it.

Also enclosed you find a set of the Washington Plates along with the new numbering system and monograph describing the varieties. Rather than sell these to you, I'm going to offer them in trade for either a set of Fugio Plates, or a set of the Machin Mills plates, both of which would be only for my own use, and no other. I've asked you for these many, many months ago, and though you mentioned you would help me out, they never came. I realize that you are busy, but I could use them. I hope this doesn't sound like blackmail. It's really unintentionable if it does.

I'm getting ready to wind up the VOCE POPULI Publication with Al Hoch, but before I do, I would like you to look it over and offer your advice. Would this be convenient for you. I don't want to make any big affair out of it, as far as a publication is concerned, but it is a contribution, and I would appreciate any help I could get to get it done right. Let me know.

Well, I guess this is enough for now. The Wood's Varieties have finally tapered off and there are recorded 222 varieties. I don't imagine this will get much above 250 if that much.

Let me hear from you when you have a free moment.

Very sincerely,

Bob

Robert A. Vlack

June 14, 1961

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

Thank you for your letter of May 21. I am enclosing a set of the Fugio plates which will be helpful to you but some of the new dies are not included.

Your Washington plates are simply lovely.

I will also send you a set of the Machin's Mills plates, when I have them made, as at the present there is only my original paste-up which has to be modified.

As far as looking over your publication on Voce Populi, naturally I would like to be of help. If it can wait until the latter part of the summer that would be more convenient for me. I certainly hope you have given the references to the earlier material describing them and that you cite the Colonial News Letter, among other things.

My best wishes.

Sincerely,

ERIC P.NEWMAN

EPN/atb

39 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

December 26, 1962

Mr. Eric Newman
400 Washington Ave.
St. Louis 2, Mo.

Dear Eric,

It has been over a year and a half since I have last written to you and that is much too long unfortunately. I am still very active in the Colonials and have several items I want to mention to you.

1. I have in my possession a Fugio 14-H which I believe is a new combination. I'm sure you have heard of Ted Craige's new FUGIO (now I guess a 23-ZZ), and I also have word of another new possibility, a 1-GG from James Spilman, although he registered some doubt as to its authenticity.

2. I have added to my Machin Mills Collection a 1777, with the date very clear. Is this of interest to you as information? I see no mention of this as a British Counterfeit so I assume it to be Machins, although everything else likewise points to it as a Machins Job.

3. I have enclosed a pencil rubbing of some crazy 1786 Immunis Columbia incused upon a French Coin of Louis XVI which is of the same period. The Immunis Columbia does not seem to match anything that I have seen as far as these varieties goes. I've had the wildest comments on this thing and if nothing else, it sure makes an interesting Conversation piece. My own opinion, for whatever it is worth, it looks like an apprentices work for practice, a die trial before a die is made up. I'm afraid you are more versed in these things than I am.

As far as anything else goes, I am still working on my Wood's book, with about 240 varieties not including the patterns, the French Colonies Sous of 1767, the Voce Populi Coinage, and still the Washington pieces. Needless to say, I am always busy.

Well, all of this I am sure might be of interest to you so I shall now sit back and await your letter. I trust everything else with you is all right.

Incidentally, your last letter of June 14, 1961, you mentioned you were going to send me a set of Machin Mills Plates when you had them made up. I am still looking forward to having these very much as it seems hopeless trying to collect something in the dark. I only have 9 different positive varieties including the 1777. Time and Paper ran out.

Very sincerely,

Bob

Robert A. Vlack

January 2, 1963

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob,

It is nice to hear from you as to the items in your letter and I have the following comments:

1. Ted Craige was nice enough to send me his piece for examination and photography and I have designated it as 23-ZZ.

2. I would like very much to see your 1777 piece which may be a British counterfeit, so if you would send it to me I could give you further information on it.

3. If you wish to send me the Immunis Columbia item for examination I would be glad to give you my thoughts on it and take its picture. Please advise me when you acquired this piece as there are some new Colonial counterfeits coming on the market. I have an article about one of them coming in the February Numismatist.

I am just beginning to work on the Machin's Mills matter again and so the plates will, in due course, be coming. I have been diverted by so many other projects that this one has been neglected. You know exactly what that problem is as you are working on three or four projects at once and are trying to satisfy yourself in doing them all well.

I look forward to seeing you soon.

Best regards for the New Year.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

January 10, 1963

Dear Bob,

Do you know who is the owner of the two pairs of the 1783 Washington & Independence togated bust dies? As executor of the B.G.Johnson Estate I sold them to Brandt about 15 years ago .

From the desk of
ERIC P. NEWMAN

January 10, 1963

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna St.,
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

Your nice letter of January 5, 1963 is most appreciated. Comments, like yours, with respect to my work on the 1804 Dollar are the real satisfaction that one gets out of such prolonged and tedious research. I am sure that your work will be a major contribution when it is published.

Comments on the coins you sent will be forthcoming as soon as I study them further.

Kindest personal regards,

ERIC P.NEWMAN

EPN/atb

February 7,1963

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street - Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

I sincerely appreciate the cooperation you have given me in letting me have the opportunity of seeing the unusual coins which you forwarded on January 5, 1963. I am returning them herewith.

My comments on them are as follows:

The Fugio 14-N is a new combination which I was previously not aware of and I congratulate you for having found it. You will get appropriate credit when my book on that subject ever gets written.

The Immunis Columbia piece dated 1786 is handcut in intaglio into the French sou in the same manner as Betts cut his fabrications. The fact that it comes from New Haven is even more conclusive that this might have been a Betts production. Betts would cut the obverse into one coin and the reverse into another. He would then harden these pieces. Then he would take a planchet, heat it up, and roll the planchet between the two designs he had cut into the two coins. The pressure of the roll on the three units together would put the design on to both sides of the planchet, would flatten the outside surfaces of the two die coins, and would bow and elongate the two die coins. You will note that your piece is rolled flat on the Louis XVI side and bows somewhat. Actually, the die cutting in this piece looks much better than Mr. Betts was able to do and therefore it might be the playwork of someone else.

The 1761 George III counterfeit is Batty 3823 and is English, in my opinion. I do not have it although I have two other varieties of the same date, all of which are English.

The 1777 Halfpenny has certain characteristics of being of American origin but its condition is so poor it is difficult

February 7, 1963

to tell. It is a struck piece and I have taken its picture after much difficulty. It does not tie in to any of the Machin's Mills pieces which I am sure of but that doesn't mean anything.

The reason I was delayed in answering you is that I have become involved in a reproduction Ethics Committee for ANA.

I certainly will enjoy anything you want to show me from time to time and if you ever wish to dispose of any of these interesting pieces, or others, I certainly would like the opportunity to acquire them.

Best wishes for your continued progress in your research.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATIONAL SOCIETY

EPN/ATB

39 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

January 5, 1963

Dear Eric,

I have enclosed the Immunis Columbia Something-or-other, the 1777 Something-or-other, and the Fugio 14-H which you had not requested to see, but I thought you would like to see for verification. I know that when someone tells me of a new variety in something that I am working,on, I say I am from Missouri and I must see it to believe it. Actually I was surprised you made no mention of it.

The Immunis Columbia was located in New Haven with a collector who had this in his possession for over 20 years, or at least that is the story I was told. This could have been told me to enhance some sort of value to it. Not knowing anything about it, I figured it was worth the gamble to purchase it just in case.

By the way, I want to congratulate you on the fine job you did on "The 1804 Dollar." I only wish I could measure up to your talents in doing such fine work.

I shall look forward to hearing of your comments, and in knowing especially regarding the Immunis Columbia job. I just thought of something else, and that is the 1781. This I am pretty sure is a British Counterfeit, but it is so strange compared to the other British Counterfeits that I thought I would send it along for you to look at also.

I trust that everything else is all right.

Very sincerely,

Bob

Robert A. Vlack

39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass.

February 24, 1963

Dear Eric,

Thank you very much for your comments regarding the several specimens I had sent to you. I had to write to you on this as well as answer a question you had asked me on a previous letter.

You had asked about the dies of the 1783 Washington & Independence togated bust cent. Unfortunately, I know nothing of them, and can not help you. I assume George Fuld must know something of them as this is one of his prime fields.

Incidentally Eric, you have a 1724 Wood's Halfpenny that I need and wonder if you are willing to part with it. It is the 3.7j1-P.8i by my classification, and is the only one that you have that I need. In this field I am trying to complete as much of this collection as possible for future photography and am trying to acquire all of the varieties. I have very little to offer you in exchange for it, but would you consider the 1777 and 1781 for it? You had commented that you needed both of these, and I am fairly certain that the 1777 is a Machin's product. You can let me know.

I am glad that someone is getting on the ball regarding the struck copies. I've heard of the work that is going on to outlaw these sort of practices, and I'm all for it but I wonder how this is stopped in foreign countries. This merchandise will always find its way into this country such as the 1652 Oak Tree Shillings which came from England. I saw the first of these last March at the New York Metropolitan Convention where a Dr. George Fattel had showed me a specimen as well as Dick Picker. It looked awfully good, and as a matter of fact, too good. I guess you have seen the two Massachusetts Struck copies, the Cent and Half Cent which were also floating around at that Convention. These were also very good die cutting jobs and could easily fool the novice.

Oh, I wanted to mention one more thing. I've been trying for years to get one of the 1785 Ryder 5 Vermonts from Mrs. Norweb which she had promised to me if and when she was told by you they were of the same type. She always mentioned she wants to show them to you first, but probably forgets when she sees you. If in the future you see her, you might mention this to her and maybe have a look at the pair of them. She thinks one is struck and the other cast. I am under the assumption they are all cast and would appreciate correction if I am wrong. The Vermonts is one of my favorites and would give an eye tooth for even just one more specimen.

I shall look forward to hearing from you.

Very sincerely,

Bob

March 13, 1963

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street - Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

Thank you very much for advising me with respect to Dr. Henry Pattel. He did have one of the Oak tree forgeries sent to him and he returned it. He also acquired a St. Patrick farthing, in silver, which I am going to write up as a forgery. I appreciate your helpfulness very much as I am having friends in England check up on the matter.

I have never seen the Massachusetts cent and half cent struck copies and have written the distributor of them to send me copies, gratis. As a matter of principle I will not buy them but, so far, no gratis.

With respect to Ryder 5 Vermont, I believe they are all counterfeits but of course they are very interesting if they are counterfeits of the period, which I doubt.

I have not had an opportunity to locate the Woods half penny you are interested in as I am up to my ears in "ethics" and urgent research.

Thank you, again, for cooperating with me by furnishing this vital information as to the forgeries. I, naturally, will give credit to you in the article I am writing on the subject.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass.

May 12, 1963

Dear Eric,

I am enclosing four specimens for you to have a look-see. In your last letter to me you had commented that you had not seen the Evanson Copies, so I am enclosing these for that purpose.

The Pine Tree I am pretty certain it is a counterfeit and I wondered if you had seen any of this variety. I could not locate any reference to this. Do you know who made this up?

The GEORGIUS III Halfpenny is another of the several British Counterfeits that I thought may or may not interest you. What interested me most was the solid crosses to the shield and the seated figure herself which bears close resemblance to the "A" reverses of the Connecticuts.

Last but not least, I have enclosed a Kentucky Copper which I believe was used as a die trial for the hub of an 18th Century Tradesman Token. You may care to shed some light on this and if you have a Dalton & Hammer it would be interesting to know which of the Tokens had this particular hub.

I am in the process of reading Taxay's book of the counterfeiting problems and find it very revealing to say the least. I've never seen such a furor regarding anything but the real thing with coins.

I would appreciate your sending these back when you have had a chance to examine them. I trust that everything else is all right.

Very sincerely,

Robert A. Vlack

May 20, 1963

Mr.Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street
Jordon Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

It was very nice for you to send me coins for my education and I thank you. I have made notes and return herewith four of the five pieces, retaining the Pine Tree forgery until it is photographed. The Pine Tree forgery is new to me and is of improper weight and has many ridiculous errors in the design. I have no idea who made it up but it is a very old forgery.

The 1773 George III halfpenny is another one of those mysteries. Unless I have reasonably sure evidence that they are of American origin I must confine them to being of British origin. This is arbitrary but the British imitations are endless compared to the American ones.

As to the Kentucky token with the horse embossed upon it, I do not believe a D & H would be helpful as this horse has too high relief to be from a coin hub. You will note that this horse is embossed with a die from the back and a die from the front which is contrary to coin procedures and common in medal or button procedures. I will admit that because of the delicious blue grass in Kentucky any horse would be desirous of being on a Kentucky token and this one looks like a Derby winner.

I have not as yet read Taxay's book, as published, although I went over the galley proofs in their preliminary stages.

May 20, 1963

You are absolutely correct that there is too much furor being made over phony coins and not enough of the real thing. I had no intention of getting diverted into exposures of forged coins and it all happened by accident. In 1961 I was asked to talk, in Atlanta, the identical day that the Ostheimers' article came out on his Zerbe dollars and I chose that topic for its probable popularity rather than on any other basis. The result is that I have had to put two years in on fakes and not continue with the many research projects which I have under way.

Incidentally, I am wondering how you are coming on your Woods publication. Is there any service I can give? I, more than anyone, realize how much of a public service you do when you undertake work of that nature and how limited your audience is. However, a small sincere group of numismatists appreciate what is otherwise considered a thankless job.

With kindest personal regards,

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

July 2, 1963

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

I am returning herewith the Massachusetts Pine Tree Shilling forgery which you were kind enough to send to me and I am also enclosing a print of the picture I took of it. It was difficult because the center section is in such low relief.

I certainly appreciate your cooperation in sending me this coin and hope that you will always feel free to send me anything you feel will be interesting.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

July 8, 1963

Mr.Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street - Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

When I purchased the Colonial Price List from Al Hoch I did not realize that you were the author.

It is most interesting to study your views of valuation and see the categories in which you separated some of the items.

I will be glad to make suggestions for corrections, in due course, particularly in the fields in which I am most familiar.

Good luck in selling it!

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

January 27, 1964

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

It is always a pleasure to hear from you and when I saw Picker, last week, I asked how your book was doing. I then stated that I hoped it had new historical material as well as die variety work. Does it? I agree that A.N.S. is the place to submit it because, like so many important labors of love, the commercial potential is minimal.

You have asked my opinion as to the two "die trials" of the 1723 Rosa 2 pence. They are gorgeous in detail and color. They are superb electros, in my opinion, for the following reasons:

1. The smooth edge of the coin shows on each and this could not occur in a uniface striking. It indicates casting.

2. The metal does not extend beyond the border which is unnatural in a uniface striking and indicates casting.

3. The central image and other parts of the convex side show up as concave on the reverse and this could not occur during striking but only by electroplating where uniform thickness results.

4. The granular appearance of the backs is from casting or plating rather than striking.

5. The copper is pure as would result from electroplating and is not from normally impure 18th century copper or from Wood's metal.

January 27, 1964

Mr.Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass.

6. They show so much tone on the obverse and raw red on the reverse that they indicate artificial chemical coloring.

I therefore conclude that they are made from wax castings which are then electroplated. The original piece from which they are taken is genuine. They would make a dangerous electro if joined.

Please tell me the source of the fakes and do your utmost to find out who is behind this devilment. They have no value and should be given to you with an apology.

The pieces are returned herewith.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN
atb

31 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01960

January 1?, 1963

Dear Eric,

I came across this pair of brouilles not too long ago and must admit that I am at pretty much of a loss as to exactly what they are. My impression is that they are die trials of the 1723 Rosa Americana Twopence Pattern, but the nature in which they were made puzzles me. The back has the appearance of sand casting, but the front looks obviously struck. I hope that you can enlighten me as to all that you know or guess as to their origin.

I would also appreciate knowing how rare they are, for I feel they must be extremely rare, and what something like this should cost. I must admit that they are not mine not although I hope they shall be, and I must return them within a couple of weeks at the most. For this reason I hope that you do know something of them so that you can return them as soon as possible. I've only received them in the mails today so I have the full two weeks ahead of me yet. Incidentally, I have no reference showing that actual coins were struck from this pair of dies, do you know of the existance of one of these patterns? I was going to forward these to Mr. Rowe so he could compare them with her patterns, but where I had a choice between yourself and her, versus him, I chose to send them to you. So much for that.

I heard via the grapevine that you are looking for Vermonts. Did you know I purchased Ted Bassler's Vermont Collection? I have many duplicates for sale if you are interested. I also plan on getting rid of my English Counterfeits ranging from a 1738, 1761, 1771 to 1775 including a 1781. There are a total of 24 different which I want to sell as a collection for $75.00.

Last February 24, 1963 I wrote to you and asked if I could purchase a 1724 Wood's Halfpenny, 3.74'-1.8', which I can use for my own collection as I am still trying to complete as much as I can in this series. You mentioned you were going to look it up for me as soon as you had time. Obviously you must have forgotten so I am reminding you again. While we are on the subject, I plan on having the American Numismatic Society publish the Wood's Hibernia book sometime this year if they can handle it. It's been over four years now and I feel it must be published. Do you have any ideas on this?

Guess that is it for now. Try and send these back within a reasonable length of time so I can act accordingly. What should I pay for them, any ideas?

Bob Wade

EPN

January 27, 1964

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

It is not clear to me what is in your group of halfpence counterfeits. If it is your entire collection, send it.

As to the Vermonts, I wrote Teaparty because he advertised some, but couldn't use any he had. I would like a list and the prices of your duplicates as I am glad to add to my collection in any category.

Your Woods has been neglected because I avoid selling coins, but will gladly trade it for something I need because I do not collect die varieties of Woods. Please suggest a value in trade toward the Vermont copper idea.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN
atb

March 23, 1964

Mr. Robert Vlack
39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Massachusetts 01962

Dear Bob:

Now, what a problem! I have noted differences between the pictured genuine pieces and the piece subject to review, including most of yours. They are on a separate sheet and there are many more which should be found. Please check them out. The choices are:

1. Is it a retooling of a genuine coin?
2. Is the obverse a die state before, during or after genuine obverse?
3. Is the reverse a die state before, during or after genuine reverses?
4. Is the obverse a new genuine die?
5. Is the reverse a new genuine die?
6. Is it from forged dies?

If it were from a false die which was spark eroded from a genuine coin, the many differences would not exist. If it were a completely new hand cut forgery, the deviations would not have been made deliberately, but could have been made to do a neater job. It could not have been made before or during the striking of the pictured pieces in Noe. Therefore, I think it may be either a genuine recutting or a skilled forger's work.

Genuine Recutting

The reverse die had chipped and was producing poor coins. The obverse die was weak in detail. The only way to keep the dies alive was to soften them by annealing, then hammer their surfaces sufficiently to fill up holes, then reengrave the design over the old design. This would result in many deviations, but the same general outline. All changes could thus be accounted for, including the elimination of surface die chips. This would account for the hammered field rather than the smooth field. Is this hammering and reengraving probable, or would an engraver make a new die as easily.

Forgery

The forger could transfer a reverse photo onto a photo sensitized die blank and cut the die over the photo image. The forger could use a two-image microscope and transfer the image seen by one eye to the other while engraving the die. Another alternative is that a forger made a casting in a new strong plastic-like epoxy. This was transferred to a metal hub, then to a die, losing considerable sharpness. The die was then hand cut over the existing outline.

Think about these and let me hear your thoughts. I have retained the coin momentarily as I presume you have its picture. If not, please advise me whether I should take a photo or will you take it. Where did it come from, what dealer, what price, as those facts are essential.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

P.S. Let Barnsley have the halfpence if he wants them.
Noe 13 Oak Tree is not rare as Oaks go.
The only Vermont I do not have on your list is #36.
I'll look it over if you want.

39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01962

February 1, 1964

Dear Eric,

I have received the shells back safely and I really want to thank you for the prompt return. I also want to thank you very much for the education for I feel like a real dumb bunny for not seeing some of the things you had mentioned. I guess I was trying too hard to believe that I had located something rare.

As to their identy. They originally came from the Horace Grant estate in Rhode Island (famous Rhode Island restrike maker). They were sold as part of his estate to Copley Coin Company which in turn had it in storage until now. They know of my interest in Colonials and thought I would be highly interested in them as they were convinced they were something rare, however, they allowed me to take them for a couple of weeks to check them out and satisfy myself that they are all right. For this reason, I believe they are quite innocent of any misgivings, and am sure they will be very disappointed this afternoon when I inform them of the facts.

I did not send the English Counterfeits yet as you appeared to be confused as to exactly what they are I would send. They are strictly the English Counterfeits, no Machin Mills, and are broken down as follows

(1) 1738 (4) 1773 (1) 1781
(1) 1761 (2) 1774
(1) 1771 (14) 1775

This is my entire collection as such, and if interested, shall forward them on. I have kept out the 1777 specimen as I believe this to be Machin's work if you were wondering about that particular specimen.

I shall also list what duplicates I have in the Vermont series.

Ryder No.	Nomenclature
2	Condition good, estimated value $25.00
4	Fine, $65.00
7	Would be fine only surface is rough thus VG, $25.00
8	Good and struck in brass, $25.00
9	Fine plus, but with planchet defects, $65.00
10	Close to VF but planchet defect creates hole in center, $65.00
13	EF, minor clipped planchet, but nice, $50.00
14	VG, $25.00
17	VG with green patina, $45.00
20	VG with green patina, $25.00

22	VG, $50.00
23	VG with cut mark on obverse, $30.00
24	Fine, $35.00
27	VG with very late die collapse, $20.00
28	VG but fine for variety, struck over IRISH halfpenny, $125.00
29	VG, $50.00
36	VG, very rare, $125.00

Those are my duplicate Vermonts. The prices are pretty well established by what I had to pay for the collection to obtain a better 10, 27, 28, and 36. I had previously bought the unique 37 from Ned on a Connecticut trade.

As far as a trade goes with respect to the Vermonts versus the 1724 Wood's Halfpenny, this is acceptable to me. As I recall, the coin would be either Uncirculated or close to it. I shall allow $50.00 for this if this is acceptable as a trade either towards the English pieces or the Vermonts.

Your question regarding the Wood's Book. It shall have a compilation of all the data of Wood's History known plus the die varieties and complete coverage by photographs. As far as any new pertinant data goes, I am not sure at this point. Phil Keller has joined me on this project and is gathering data and his last comment was that he thought he had too much. I do not understand this as I find it difficult to believe there is ever too much.

I shall await your reply before sending anything on. Should you care to see any of the Vermonts, I would be most happy to send them on.

Very sincerely,

Bob

39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01962

April 10, 1964

Dear Eric,

When it rains, it seems to pour. I've never become too involved in the Massachusetts Silver mainly because I could not afford either the time or the money on these pieces, but now another coin has come to light which is quite new to me.

This particular item is no where mentioned as far as I know, although, deep in the past, I seem to recall this coin being discovered by someone and I think it was Walter Breen. The characteristic feature about this that I seem to remember was the 6 of the date which was rather unusual. Another oddity of this specimen is that it has the legend without the H in Masathusets. Does that ring any sort of a bell??

Again, this coin does not belong to me, so if you know anything of it I would appreciate the knowledge, and if you photograph it, I would appreciate a copy.

You might care to know I just purchased the dated 1795 Liberty & Security Penny, similar to its counterpart, the Halfpenny. If I am not mistaken, there are now 5 of these known, or are there more?

Have fun.

Very sincerely,

Bob

Robert A. Vlack

39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01962

April 20, 1964

Dear Eric,

Couple of things to cover here. First and foremost, I have to have the second coin I sent to you right away as the owner of the coin is screaming for it and it has to come from you to me, to another, and finally the owner. This is the new variety Pine Tree Shilling that I sent, and not the Oak Tree which I originally sent. This bothers me as I wanted to get a photograph of it for future reference. Perhaps you had time for this already, I hope.

Secondly, I am sending along a New Jersey for you to ponder over for a while. I am certain it is a phoney, but I thought I would check to be sure. I could see no reason for making a phoney of a common coin except it is double struck, and has some unusual die breaks. You may make more out of it.

Third, I have enclosed a Vermont Ryder 5 which I think you might like to see. This particular specimen belongs to General Newton of Vermont, and he picked it up locally. I thought there were only cast copies in lead around but apparently I am mistaken. This has all the earmarks of being a cast specimen though, but I think it is all right. I would like to have this compared to your specimen if this is possible with any other information you might care to divulge. This Vermont also has to be returned as soon as possible, so do what you can.

Very sincerely,

Bob

April 23, 1964

Mr. Robert Vlack
39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01962

Dear Bob:

In accordance with your command instructions I am returning the Pine Tree shilling which you were nice enough to forward to me. I am also enclosing my report on the same and will send you pictures if they are printed in time.

I am sending a duplicate of the report for whoever owns the coin if it won't upset the applecart to know that I looked at it.

I am not certifying this letter so as to have it delivered faster.

I'll write you soon.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

May 8, 1964

Mr. Robert Vlack
39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01962

Dear Bob:

[redacted]

I am returning herewith, and am enclosing a memorandum on, the New Jersey electro. I have seen the obverse die break often but not the reverse die break so I assume the reverse comet may be a defect rather than a die break.

I am returning the Vermont Ryder 5 which I very much appreciate examining. I made a memorandum relating to it which is also enclosed.

My opinion as to Ryder 5 is the same as it always has been, that is, it is a contemporary counterfeit made by sand-casting and although it has numismatic interest it is not part of the Vermont franchise coinage. There are, naturally, forgeries of the counterfeit, but this, I believe, to be a genuine counterfeit.

I am still playing with the Oak Tree shilling you sent me and would like very much to send this to Dick Picker, if you have no objection, so as to see what he has to say on the subject. Would you let me know if you have any objection to that.

I am sending you a photograph of the Vermont Ryder 5 and I will be sending you photos of the Oak Tree shilling if I have not already done so.

At the Central States meeting in Kansas City, recently, I understand that all the P.N.G. members closed their bourse tables and walked away at noon on Saturday.

May 8, 1964

My own research has been switched to Colonial paper money for a little while but will be back on coins in due course. The hottest thing I found, recently, was a law suit involving the 1804 dollar accusing the Chapmans of being crooks. This will be published by Whitman as a supplement to their monthly.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01962

May 11, 1964

Dear Eric,

I have received the Vermont and New Jersey along with associated comments and I thank you for the information. I have forwarded this information on to the owner and I am sure it shall be appreciated. I am also sure you were pleased in examining them as well.

I do not as yet have any photos of the Oak Tree Shilling and I shall await these from you before commenting on your findings. I did see Dr. Fattel while I was in New York, and in talking to him about the coin, he claimed this specimen did NOT come from England but was a part of his collection for about 5 years and was obtained from a local New York dealer. He had no records to verify which one unfortunately. I told him we were still working on it and he said this was all night.

I heard about the P.N.G. walkout in Kansas City. I believe the dispute was over the spacing of the bourse tables, where the tables were intermingled with the non P.N.G. dealers. Think we ought to inform the John Birch Scoiety for the non-intergration?

I created quite a bit of havoc myself at the Metropolitan Convention. I bought a North Wales, lettered edge, in VF Condition from Bernie Gimbleson. He claimed he had a $1000.00 price tag on it because of the lettered edge, but, when he showed it to a couple of other dealers, they claimed it was worth only about $50.00, so, he sold it for that. He mentioned it to Picker not mentioning the edge, and Picker told him the rare one was with the 4 stars on the reverse, himself forgetting the lettered edge. All of this built up to the sale, and when I showed it to John Frates, a dealer at the show who likes Colonials, Ralph Goldstone overheard and spread the word like gospel. Results were that Bernies pride was sorely wounded for letting a rare coin go with everyone knowing of it. This is unfortunate for him as I did not want this to have happened.

Incidentally, you may send the coin (Mass Oak) to Picker. His comments might help. Also, Empire wants to republish the small Colonial book, but this time include much photography and some reshuffling. What do you think?

Very sincerely,

Bob

Robert A. Vlack

May 13, 1964

Mr. Robert A.Vlack
39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01962

Dear Bob,

Enclosed is a picture of the Oak Tree shilling, in accordance with your desire.

It is unfortunate that Dr. Fattel has such a bad memory as I had the same problem with him on other English material he acquired.

I do not understand why you are concerned about Gimbleson's pride. He has put outrageous prices on some things and sold them so when he sells something for a modest price which is still way above his cost then why is it your obligation to worry about it. You did not talk him into the lower price by giving him misinformation.

So far as Empire's desire to republish your Colonial book, that is certainly a forward step. If it primarily for pricing, then that is what it should be. If it is to give information, then it needs a great deal of work because you more or less assumed that the readers knew the varieties.

As you know, I try to stay out of the commercial end of these matters because I have too much fun in the studying, writing, and collecting end.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

May 26, 1964

Mr. Robert Vlack
39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01962

Dear Bob:

I am returning the Oak Tree shilling which you were nice enough to send me and must admit that my original correspondence on it was not what it should have been.

This coin is definitely a forgery and I wrote up this matter in the February, 1963 Numismatist. At that time I had seen two specimens of the forgery, each different, and this is the third specimen which I had been trying to trace for a long time.

I asked Dr. Fattel about it and never could find out what happened to it. I don't believe Dr.Fattel realizes how serious this situation is.

This forgery has much thicker roots than the other specimens I know of indicating that the die is somewhat soft and was often reworked. This leads me to believe that the die may not have been steel. It is quite surprising to find the only three known pieces in different states of the die, all coming out of England, from the same source, at the same time.

I am certainly glad I had the opportunity of studying the coin because now I suspect that the dies may be epoxy plastic.

My kindest regards.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01962

April 2, 1964

Dear Eric,

I have received your letter and comments regarding the Oak Tree Shilling and am glad you found this as impressive as I found it. Your comments are extremely interesting to say the least, and, for this letter I should like to reserve my comments until I hear from you for this reason. I do not have a photograph of the picture and at present have no facilities for obtaining one as I am unemployed at the present. I would like to have you send me a photo, possibly even enlarged and we can carry the ball from there. I would like to review all of your comments and possibly add a few of my own. I have no limitation as yet as to how long I may retain the coin so can we go on that basis.

In the mean time, I shall try to find out from where it came from and from whom. What information I have is only meager at the time except it belongs to Henry Fattell who in turn I believe obtained it from England. If you will recall, he obtained another forgery from England which I wrote to you about. Incidentally, I am not referring this to be a forgery which it appears I might be doing in that comment.

I might mention that Ned Barnsley has also in turn mentioned to let you have the English Counterfeits so if you want them they are available. Just to mention a point about them, I now have 2 1781's and both of them are different.

I'm sorry to say, but I no longer have the Ryder 36 Vermont. Phil Keller wrote to me and said he wanted it so I sent it along and he bought it without any problem. Would you care to see any of the others? The Ryder 28 is still there and it is struck over an IRISH Halfpenny, which I think is the way all of these come. I need a Ryder 5 - 15 - 30 - 32 - 34 - 35 - and 38. Do you have any duplicates of these. I will trade, buy, swap anything under the sun to obtain any of these, so I would appreciate any help. Dear Mrs. Emery May promised me one of her Ryder 5's if and when she showed them to you to determine whether or not they were the same. Have you seen hers? And are they the same?

I shall look forward to hearing from you with the photo.

Bob

39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01962

March 16, 1964

Dear Eric,

I have enclosed an Oak TreeShilling for you to look over and give me an opinion as to what you think it is. My observation are as follows:

The obverse resembles Noe 5 with no question, however, when I compare it to my own specimen which is probably uncirculated, I note the following differences;

1. The trunk of the tree has two solid and heavy lines, unlike the specimen as shown in Noe's book and my own.
2. The "H" has it's top above the V, which is unlike Noe's or mine.
3. The ground line is heavy with no additional shrubs, as on Noe 4 & 5.
4. The crossbar of N is heavy, whereas on Noe 5 it is light.
5. Several other minor differences.

The reverse again strongly resembles Noe 5, but again, there are strong differences.

1. The lack of die failures generally associated with Noe 5.
2. W is closer to the beads
3. G is much taller the on Noe 5
4. The spacing between D and O is much wider on this specimen than on the Noe 5 or it's Noe A to H counterparts.

One other basic observation that I have made which strikes me as being odd it the flatness of the planchet, which is unusual for the Forest series. After all of this, is it possible that this could be an excellent counterfeit? Or is it possible that this is a retooling of the dies. I might mention that again, this specimen came from England, how about that.

So much for that. What about the English Counterfeits? I've been waiting to hear from you regarding those. Ned Barnsley is also interested in them, but I mentioned that you might be interested first.

How rare is Oak Tree Noe 13. I've located a nice specimen.

What about the Vermonts? You owe me a few answers to my last letter.

Have fun with this.

Very sincerely,

Bob Wade

39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01962

August 25, 1994

Dear Eric,

This shall be very short, I hope. Since I have arrived home I found myself swamped with everything under the sun, especially correspondence. I have enclosed the first edition as I mentioned I would, and though it is somewhat of a dog, I hope it suits your library. Fortunately, I also have the first edition of the Blue Book as well, and I shall send this to dear George if he wants it. On the Blue Books, I have only the 1st that amounts to anything, the rest are from the 14th edition on.

I shall not forget to send you a copy of the 1771 Machin Mills piece as soon as I can get the photographer off his butt.

Needless to say, I enjoyed the Convention very much and especially the amount of time I had to spend with you. Grace Ann and myself spent some time on the Canadian side of Niagara Falls on the way home and I think now she enjoyed the trip as much as I. There is much to do, so I shall write again as soon as time permits. Again, thank you for everything.

Very sincerely,

Bob

Robert A. Vlack

August 26, 1964

Mr. Robert A.Vlack
39 Donna Street, Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

I sincerely enjoyed being with you and George and hope that teamwork on the Washington project will result in a worthwhile publication.

I was glad to have the opportunity of knowing you better as you are quiet and reserved and were really mixed up with two garrulous characters. Even I barely got a chance to talk. Frankly, Bob, I believe our relationship can grow very nicely and that we can be of very great help to one another.

As I told you, I would like, very much, for you to buy things for me and receive a buying commission.

I certainly hope you can recontact this Scott person and at least let me have the opportunity of seeing what is in the Continental coinage case. As far as the Gaylord material is concerned, I am most interested, as you know.

I have sent you the index of Colonial articles and I have also sent the Enigma which you said that you wanted.

You said that you could send me the 1947 copy of the Red Book and I also find I am missing the First, Second, Third, Fifth, and Ninth Editions of the Blue Book.

I forgot to tell you that your listing of the Brasher Spanish Doubloon is a very questionable one. I have information on it which has never been published and it has not been mentioned in the Guide Book,or the Standard Catalog, for good reason. Walter's verification of it is not acceptable to me.

August 26, 1964

This weekend I hope to get into my pictures so as to send you the 1776 picture as well as other Machins pieces you wanted.

I tried to call you Tuesday about 6:30 or 7 P.M., your time, but your line was busy. I will call at the next opportunity.

[redacted]

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01962

September 10, 1964

Dear Eric,

One might say I have stuck my neck out, but I've done it and we'll see how this turns out. I gave a check to the Emerson Gaylord people for the sum of $1900.00 for this entire lot, and I had to work to get it at that price. The check is post dated to September 25, and I certainly do not have the money to cover it. Anyhow, I was the one to grade the coins, not them and they gave in to the amount. Actually, they said I got myself a good deal, and that remains to be seen.

The only two that I am missing in the lot are the Noe 2 and 9 of the Pine Tree Shillings, all the others I have.

I shall make up a separate listing of the pieces taken from my list of notes I made of the coins while working on them, and will show you how I arrived at the prices and all that. The disagreed with me all the way on the pricing, claiming I was too low, but with a bit of pursuasion, I got my way.

In a separate package, I am sending a bundle of Colonial Notes, which are on approval. They below to Carstow and he wants $50.00 for the bundle. I haven't the foggiest idea of what is in them and dare not remove the band as I feel they shall fall apart. You are under no obligation to buy these, as I was able to get them on approval. They shall come by regular postage, this I must rush or else.

I also received the Enigma and Catalog file, and I am happy to have them. There is probably more I want to mention, but my heart is in my teeth over this, and I hope I haven't blundered. I felt the price was excellent as I paid more than that for some of my own specimens, and this is what I used as a guide. You're to be the best judge though, and I shall see.

I shall be looking forward to hearing from you.

Very sincerely,

Bob

P.S. I might mention that this was the only way I could get them.

EMERSON GAYLORD MASSACHUSETTS SILVER

1. Oak Tree Shilling, Noe 6, Strong Very fine but with edge clip and minor bruises. Call it fine to very fine.	$175.00
2. Oak Tree Shilling, Noe 14, Very fine but well clipped, call it fine	150.00
3. Oak Tree Twopence, Noe 31, Appears to be double struck or has some very unusual markings, call it very good plus	100.00
4. Pine Tree Shilling, A really choice piece which I call about uncirculated, has been bent once and straightened without apparent harm.	350.00
5. Pine Tree Shilling, Noe 2, obverse very good, reverse close to very fine, has dark unpleasant color, call it less than fine	140.00
6. Pine Tree Shilling, Noe 5, another really choice specimen which I called about uncirculated with no apparent wear. Usual bend from striking, which is also noticeable on my specimen.	325.00
7. Pine Tree Shilling, Noe 5, Another really choice specimen with a natural planchet defect which does not detract from coin. Is quite unusual from preceding specimen. Deduct for defect.	250.00
8. Pine Tree Shilling, Noe 8, An extremely fine coin that has been somewhat clipped and unfortunaly holed by Captain John Smith, but, deduct heavily for hole	150.00
9. Pine Tree Shilling, Noe 9, would be close to very fine but has several bruises and clipped.	135.00
10. Pine Tree Shilling, Noe 15, Close to fine with normal bulging below date but with minor bruise below tree	120.00
11. Pine Tree Shilling, Noe 16, Would have been very good but with bruises, call it good	70.00
12. Pine Tree Shilling, Noe 16, A really choice specimen with a better than average planchet, beautiful all the way.	275.00
13. Pine Tree Shilling, Noe 29, Close to very fine but with two small holes for some unknown reason, call it good	70.00
14. Pine Tree Sixpence, Noe 33, They called it very good, I say only about good.	40.00
Total	$2350.00

October 7, 1964

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna St.
Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

Enclosed is the photograph of the New Jersey reverse, as requested.

As far as mentioning my name in your forthcoming book, as furnishing illustrations, that is certainly up to you.

I am returning the three counterfeit halfpence which you sent on October 5, 1964 and was glad to have the opportunity of seeing them.

I don't think I have any duplicate Machins which you do not already have.

I am thoroughly convinced that the 1747 is American.

I am hopeful that the Massachusetts silver matters go well for you.

As to the FRANKLIN PRESS tokens, I am definitely interested in seeing your piece. You might also note the differences between it and the regular piece. I notice, particularly, the S in LIBERTAS is completely different from that normally known. What I want most of all, besides seeing the piece, is to know where you got it.

I have written up the false Auctori Plebis, which will be published in The Numismatist next month, and am virtually ready with the article on the Elephant forgeries.

If the Franklin Press token is a forgery it should be published immediately and we may be able to get it in the December number of The Numismatist. Do you want to write it up?

October 7, 1964

All I think it needs is to point out the differences and just say that it is another of the series of forgeries coming out of England. Naturally, what I am most interested in is whether it is really a forgery.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

37 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01960

October 10, 1964

Dear Eric,

I have received all. Thank you for the New Jersey reverse, I shall return it shortly.

I am happy to know the 1747 is Machins. I was pretty sure of it myself but did not know for sure whether or not there were any George II pieces put out by the ole boy. Could you be gracious enough to inform me what dates are Machins? I would like this for myself so I would know what to look for. Just for the heck of it I have enclosed these two mealy looking pieces for your examination. They are made by the indentical person, yet are dated far apart which is contrary to the English counterfeits. Also note the 1770 is George II and not the III. Again comparing letter punches, there is a great deal of similarity, and the sheaf of wheat in the hands of Britannia looks like some of our Connecticuts. The letter punches do compare with those on SOME OF the Machins Mills specimens. Again the 1751 piece came from the same source as the 1747 and two 1771 Machin Mills pieces all in the same day.

I am enclosing the Franklin Press Cent piece for your examination. I am also enclosing another for comparison because it lacks the die breaks and is ~~easier~~ EASIER for comparison. I would like the weights of each, if you please. If you feel ~~they are~~ IT IS ~~also~~ of a counterfeit nature, I shall be most happy to write it up for the Numismatist. I was not aware of an ructori Plebis token forgery. Incidentally, this Franklin Press token came from Seabys, on June 1 of this year. I wish I had retained their original tab that came with the coin because it generally tells when they got it.

You had not completely answered my other letter, but imagine you shall when you get the chance.

Have no worries about the Massachusetts silver, I'm not.

I've just reread this whole mess, and the English has been brutally abused, but I am in a tremendous hurry to get this off this morning before the Post Office closes. Shall await your reply.

Very sincerely,

Bob

PS. Were the other two specimens I sent before of English origin? You made no mention of them. One was 1773, the other 1761

(OVER)

PS II I just noticed a real oddity. An Oak Tree Cd NOE 21 attach over a Oak Tree Shilling NOE 12 in Fine. It is for sale @ $1000.00 Interested ??

Eric,

Just remembered something else. Do you have photos of the following?

1) New York, obverse & reverse of Lib Nat - Lib Defendo (Page 26 Sundelbook)

2) Obv & Rev. of George III obverse and Immune Columbia (Page 38 Sundelbook)

3) These will be returned

39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01962

October 17, 1984

Dear Eric,

I picked up this piece on consignment for you and think it may be of very great interest. I originally saw the piece at the NSNA Convention here in Boston and was for sale at $500.00. John Ford wanted the piece but was not willing to pay such a price claiming he was a dealer and all that. Anyhow, I tracked down the owner of the piece and I have it on consignment for $400.00. Talking with John Ford, he claimed it was very rare as it was one of the first of the Peace Medals, however, I am not up on these things at all so it ~~wx~~ is all up to you. I am suppose to be able to sell it for $500.00, but as I get a straight 10% from you I am satisfied.

If you don't want the piece, I have the option to return it, so there is nothing to worry about in this case. I was asked to return it as quickly as possible though, so you take it from there.

Nothing much else is new. I located a very rare Fugio, the 18-A which is one of the few I need. All I have to do is buy it. I also noticed our friend Richard Picker located a brand new reverse of a Fugio with the 5 obverse (concave rays). I just took the pictures of the piece and he shall forward you a copy as soon as I send them to him.

I am rushing this letter like all get-out before the mail room closes. Gotta go.

Very sincerely,

Joe

39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01960

October 12, 1964

Dear Eric,

I was just up at the Manchester Convention in New Hampshire and one of the dealers who I had asked to collect the George II and III halfpence for me came up with this very interesting lot which came from one source. In checking over the lot I am sure there are at least three Machins pieces, with two other strong possibilities maybe three. Rather than weed out these I decided to send the entire lot for you to look over and see if there was anything significant as a lot. I think I am beginning to get a bit slap-happy on these myself, there seems to be no end.

That is about it at the moment. I think I shall go postage broke if I continue sending my material to you for inspection. I think I now have written to you four times within about a week. It's fun though.

Very sincerely,

Bob

October 26, 1964

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street - Jordon Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

[redacted]

I am returning the FRANKLIN PRESS tokens which you sent and have made my notes. It is important that this be written up immediately. Suppose you start out and send me your write-up and I will add and revise, if needed. It should be short and should refer to the Williamson article in the Franklin number for other detail. The weights are below.

You asked for a LIBER NATUS picture and I am enclosing it. You may keep it.

You asked for a GEORGE III IMMUNE picture and I am enclosing it and I definitely want it back.

Unfortunately, I do not collect Indian Peace Medals and am enclosing the one which you sent to me on approval.

I am most anxious to know how you are coming on the sale of the Massachusetts silver, so please keep me advised.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01962

November 2, 1964

Dear Eric,

Enclosed find the article on the Franklin Press token and a check for the Noe 1 Pine Tree Shilling. I have recently received from you the photos which I require and which I will send back in my next letter if they reproduced all right.

I am still waiting patiently to hear your comments on the pile of "junk" I sent to you for observation, and of course I am anxious to hear your comments on this article. I refrained from mentioning Seaby's as a source of the forgery because if I do, I feel I may never get another coin from them in the future, and they have been good to me in the past. What do you think?

As you have noticed, I have enclosed the check which I have received some time ago for the Pine Tree Shilling. Apparently there was some misunderstanding on the price as it was offered for $325.00, but I was later told I was owed some back postage on some other items, thus the increase. For the sake of our records, we'll let this go at the $330.00, okay? I am pretty sure I sold another, this will be your specimen, the Noe 16, which I priced at $175.00, and I think I'll get the full amount with no trouble. You only paid approximately $220.00 for yours which was a better improvement. From your letters, it seems you might be a bit anxious to receive your money. I have some stock which I have had for over 6 months now and can't move. Don't worry, it shall go, and if I can, I shall send you the checks as they come.

What happens to the article now? Are you going to send it in, or do you think I should, or what? I have never written an article for the Numismatist yet, and don't know the procedure.

[redacted]

I just remembered something, I have also enclosed a photo of the edges of both the genuine article and the forgery, should this be included as an illustration? If so, dub it it.

Very sincerely,

Bob

Robert A. Vlack

39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01960

November 7, 1964

Dear Eric,

Received your note and appreciate your efforts on my behalf. As far as I am concerned, I would like to continue with the article, regardless of what John Ford has in mind. Up to this time I have not heard from him and I have no idea of what he has in mind. He asked for a set of the photos which I sent to you, and I obliged him, and figured these were for something in the future, but, as I see it now, it looks as though he plans on writing this up as his discovery. I shall have to wait and see. Frankly, I thought his use was for something like an addendum to the Taxay book.

Once again I have been going hog-wild looking for possible suspects in the Machin's field and came across a few more. One was another 1747, of which I now have three, one being double struck, another of the 1774 date with the same reverse as the one with the break below the bust, and this third which I am sending to you for a look see as it is the first of these I have seen. I am absolutely certain it is American, and appears to be the same as the one mentioned in Betts where a U WAS USED instead of a V in the word GEORGIUS. If it is, the date should be a 1772, and I would like this confirmed by you if you are aware of this piece. The letter punches check out beautifully with several of the others.

I am going up to a convention in New Hampshire where the junk dealers dwell, and I hope I have as much success as I am having as of late.

I have enclosed a check from Ralph Goldstone for your Noe 16 which has now been sold. This should ease the burden on the pocketbook pretty well. I estimated the value of your piece at $175.00, so I think this is pretty good. Incidentally, are you interested in a F-VF Oak Tree Sixpence, Noe 21, struck over an Oak Tree Shilling, Noe 14? I've seen the piece and it is very lovely. The price to me is $750.00. I believe this is the same unique piece that belonged to Mr. Sullowa, and written up in the December 1963 issue of the Colonial Newsletter. Let me know soon before it goes.

I would also be interested in hearing about all of the George III stuff I have been sending you lately. Is is possible to your knowledge, that some of the Sunytowns could have been made at Machin Mills. I am referring to the Evasion type stuff. In checking over many of the varieties that I have in

my collection, I begin to wonder. Just an interesting thought.

You might be interested to know I bought the Fugio with the FF reverse that was struck over a 1798 Large Cent. This I am sure is a die trial and struck long before the New Haven restrike issue as there is a complete lack of rust marks on this piece as associated with the restrike issue where the dies have been stored for so long and became rusted.

As you are probably well aware, I am making up a set of plates of the known Machin Mills pieces. This is to enable a group of us to collect these by die varieties and to date, I have 19 of the George III pieces illustrated, or I should say, 1 GEORGE II, and 18 GEORGE III, with a few of the major interlocks, which also have the GEORGE III obverse. I feel ashamed to say this to you, but, I am selling the plates because I can not afford to give them out, and I am selling them only to those that want them, and no others. I am selling a set, which consists of 2-8 x 10's for $10.00, and with the very few I am making, this will give me a free set or two. Would you be interested in a set?

I'm about running the gauntlet on items to tell you and I guess this is about it for now. I shall as always, look forward to hearing from you.

Very sincerely,

Robert G. Wick

November 9, 1964

Mr.Robert Vlack
39 Donna Street - Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

I agree with you that you should proceed, immediately, to send in the FRANKLIN PRESS forgery matter for publication without concerning yourself about Ford in view of the fact that all of his information came from you and that he did not write you to inquire about using the material for publication.

However, a much more serious situation has come up. I have been sent a 1723 Woods Farthing, in silver, which I am satisfied is a cast made from a copper piece, or worse. I am enclosing a rubbing and wonder what your records show with respect to varieties which have been struck in silver. I hope to be able to send you the coin, shortly. Naturally, it came from England.

All other open matters will be answered as soon as I can get the time.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

November 10, 1964

Mr. Robert Vlack
39 Donna Street - Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

As to the loan with respect to the New England silver, I must reiterate that you can sell nice pieces very easily, as you have already demonstrated, but let's see you sell some of the poorer grade pieces.

I am not the slightest concerned about the speed with which you pay back the loan but would like to see you sell the junk at somewhere near the prices you paid.

I just hope you can make a profit - which you deserve.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

November 10,1964

Mr.Robert Vlack
39 Donna Street - Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

Your rising enthusiasm concerning Machins Mills pieces reminds me of my experience with them many, many years ago.

I am in a bad mood about counterfeit halfpence in general, at the present time, since over 100 of my nicer ones were taken in my burglary. They left me the poorer ones which were in bulk in envelopes. Fortunately, none of my Machins pieces were at home so they were not stolen.

As to the distribution of a photo of the varieties of the Machins Mills pieces, I certainly have no objection to it being distributed to parties interested in research such as Picker, Barnsley, etc. but I definitely think you should put on the photos "NOT FOR PUBLICATION OR DISTRIBUTION". Remember, I have put at least 25 times more work in on this matter than anyone else. I revived interest in it about twenty years ago. I wrote up the Vermont Enigma and I do not want to have all of my research anticipated by complete or incomplete publications. I have a one and one-half foot pile of data on halfpence in early America, so distribute your beloved photograph to those willing to buy it who are researchers.

I know that, being in New England, you have a tremendous opportunity to find Machins pieces and, no doubt, will turn up many I never heard of.

I will write you when I study the pieces on hand.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01962

November 12, 1964

Dear Eric,

I too am quite concerned about the Wood's Farthing which is suppose to be struck in Silver, and again I repeat, where will it end. I have enclosed the rubbing with these comments: I know of no others that are struck in Silver of this variety, though the variety is known in copper and is relatively common. The two varieties known in Silver are 2.5a'-R.10i', of which one is known and that is yours, the other is 2.5b'-R.8e², of which I know of four, Black, Norwes, Craige, and Anton, and all of these came from the same source, Mr. Albert Baldwin, and these are supposed to have come from a decendent of William Wood himself. I believe this to the extent that I have seen the silver tube they were stored in, with a Silver halfpenny on each end, soldered to the tube to make up the ends of the tube. Quite a fascinating piece, and quite unavailable at the moment. I've been promised the tube if and when it ever comes up for sale. I believe the tube held about twenty of the pieces, and whether they were all silver is hard to say, although this would be my guess. As you have noticed, the variety is 1.4a'-R.8e'.

The Machin Mills Plates are being given a very descreet distribution. The only ones I plan on distributing them to are Craige, Keller, Ford, Picker, Barnsley, possibly Hoch, and yourself. I shall send you a copy anyhow as you have been most helpful to me, and as I said, I felt foolish in trying to sell you a copy, especially after your help. No one is more aware of your efforts in this project than I am, and the plates may help in finding other varieties if people start collecting them. Don't for a minute think I want to start on anything that is deservedly your baby.

I am returning your pictures which you have been nice enough to loan me for photography. I have also enclosed a duplicate set which is twice size. Maybe they shall help you in the future.

You are probably right about the Massachusetts Silver which I still must dispose of. I may get lucky one of these days though.

For a change I have no coins to send you. At least not until the next Convention. So much for now. I'd like to see the so-called silver piece when it become available.

Very sincerely,

Bob

November 16, 1964

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01962

Dear Bob:

I received permission from Dave Bowers to send you the Woods farthing in silver which you identify as 1.4a(1)-K8e(1). Please return the coin directly to him.

The piece weighs 67-3/4 grains. Its specific gravity is about 10.3. Since it is a common variety in copper and unknown in silver that certainly weighs heavily against its being genuine.

I call your particular attention to the dark areas around the lettering which are very mottled and not normal as they appear to be burned on rather than the result of natural oxidation and corrosion. There are definite spaces where the silver shows through around the lumps constituting these dark portions which can be readily seen on magnification.

I also call your attention to the two double scratches below the bust. These scratches were, in my opinion, in the coin from which this piece was cast. If that had happened to this piece they would not be dark in some areas and not in others. The artificial oxidation was put over the scratches. The scratches do not seem normal at all.

My own Woods farthing weighs 74 grains, which is 10% above the weight of the piece under review.

The piece under review is also not worn normally either on the obverse or the reverse as the weakness on the head of the obverse is die deterioration as is the weakness in the center of the reverse. A silver specimen would certainly not be struck after the die had been so substantially worn. It is also ridiculous to have the beading so heavily worn on the obverse and the adjacent lettering so little worn.

You will also note that there is a flat filing on the edge adjacent to the IU of GEORGIUS. This is probably where the port was to let the metal into the mold and could not

November 16, 1964

possibly have been the shape of the planchet. It is so carefully blended into the balance of the edge that it is not a test mark.

Look the piece over and see if you agree with me before you return it to Dave.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P.NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01962

November 19, 1964

Dear Eric,

Received your letter (s) and have taken care of everything already. I wrote to Mr. Bradfield and cleared that up, and to Empire Coin Company in which I have returned their forgery.

I agree with you on all counts and have only one other observation to add and I think this is probably most conclusive that the piece is a forgery. My copper specimen is in exactly the same die state, with the die breaks under the O of GEORGIUS, on the head under the S, and in the E of DEI. Bearing this in mind, all other conditions should likewise be the same, and yet, I found one glaring difference. In the 7 of the date of the forgery, part of the 7 is missing probably from a mold failure. On the 7 of my specimen, it is bold and clear, with no defects what-so-ever. The failure is likewise in the center of the 7 as though a piece were taken out, similar to what you might expect in a mold failure. I checked the coin very carefully to determine if the piece could have been struck there, but there is no evidence of this. If you have a photo of the piece, I am sure you will spot it immediately. As a matter of fact, I've just checked my varieties that used this identical reverse, and found one in a very late die state, and there is no failure of the 7 at all. Incidentally this reverse has been used with 9 different obverses, how about that.

Now, back to Machins and his Mills, I am going nuts. I've come across something quite remarkable (to me anyhow). I've asked you before if you knew of any Machin Mills varieties dated 1775, and you never answered me. In doing letter punch comparisons, I found a significant letter punch, a B with a defect. In checking many of my 1775's, I found several that not only used this same B, but other letters as well, such as E's and R's, and numerals. The only New York piece I thought was worth comparing with those letter punches was the New York Libertatus Libertatum Defendo, of which I have a specimen, and it is genuine. This defect is apparent in the B especially, the E, and several others look reasonably close. Am I on to something you were aware of, or just on to something. I doubt if you enjoy my enthusiasm if I am getting too optimistic on these, but I think this is my first breakthrough on the 1775's. Previously I did not think they made any 1775's although I could not think of one reason why not. If this discovery of mine is true and valid, then I have several 1775's that are probably Machins. I wish I knew what you knew on these so I wouldn't be batting my head against what seems like stone walls.

I wish I had not missed your call last night as I wanted to talk some of these things over with you. I would love to know what dates you are aware of that are Machins. I've asked you this before too, but, your answer was very evasive, and I don't blame you. One thing you may be sure of, I shall not publish anything on Machins except what I've put in my book which you have read, but not commented one syllable, probably for good reason.

Incidentally, I've located another variety which I was not aware of. The obverse is the same as the 1772 which you have for examination and the attempted puncture, only it is dated 1776. I shall forward this to you if you would care to see it. Also picked up another of the 1771's with the bust facing left instead of right. I think you have this already in the bunch I forwarded to you. I know one was dated 1770, and I think there was another.

I guess that is about it for now. Incidentally, remember that bunch of photographs you sent me that were Machins? One of them was a screwy looking thing dated 1769, is that Machins as well? It certainly is not like some of the others. Well anyhow, I'd still like to hear about the others. I appear to be pushing I know, but I am very enthusiastic about these especially from a die variety point of view. So what you can.

I haven't seen much material that I could get for you lately. I am going to a Boston Convention this weekend, and the ANA Convention in New York next week end, so we'll see. Any more news on the Fugio's you and Picker are working on?

Very sincerely,

Bob

Robert A. Black

← DEFECT IN B. A VERY NOTICEABLE BUMP.

37 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01960

November 20, 1964

Hi Eric,

Enclosed another pile of stuff we just talked about over the phone. I hope you can make something out of it. Several of them appear to have the same S's and other lie-in characteristics. I've also enclosed the 1776 which I had just picked up and mentioned to you, the one with the hole in it.

I've also enclosed the check for the Oak Tree Stilling, all signed and all that. Now all I have to do is sell the rest of the cheaper stuff and everyone is happy.

I shall be sending you the plates along with this in another envelope, and I am sure it shall interest you to some extent, maybe even amuse you as I am sure there are some items that you are aware of that I am not. I did add the 1777 piece as I am more convinced than you as to its status, although I could be so wrong. It will help others to locate another though and this is one of the things I am after to help clarify the situation. Any errors you notice in the plates I would appreciate knowing of. One thing you can check for me for sure is my 3-C, is the date a 1771 or a 1776? It looks very much like the 1776 I've just sent to you, only the plate looks like a 1. On checking the coin, the left side of the 6 appears heavy, and I wonder if it isn't a retooled 6 over 1. Interesting no?

There's not much time at the moment, so I'll shove off here. I expect I shall be hearing from you in the near future.

Very sincerely,

Bob

	List	Cost	Sell
#1	175.-	141.75	
#5	140.-	113.40	
#6	325.-	263.25	
#9	135.-	109.35	
#10	120.-	97.20	
	895.-	~~704.95~~ 723.75	

November 25, 1964

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street - Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

I do not want to hold all of the imitation halfpence which you sent me for study when you might be learning something from them. Accordingly, I am sending all of them back except two.

The one group which bothers me is the 1775 group about which you say theB is the same as the Liber Natus. I find the B different on each of the five coins you sent with that apparent characteristic. I think it will take a photographic blow-up to prove any such point and hope that you can accomplish it.

In connection with the various imitations made in America, I think it is fundamental that all imitations must be construed as British unless proven American.

You asked whether I knew of any 1775 Machin's and I can only say that I find I have one. I am enclosing a rubbing.

As I suggested to you over the phone, I will be glad to send you a large group of miscellaneous 1775 imitations which I cannot show to be American and see what your thoughts might be on them. I will do this as soon as I check your plates and see what items you may not know about which I already have.

I enjoyed talking with you the other night and will try to do it again some time.

I am glad you have this imitation halfpence disease that will cost you hundreds of hours in time.

Sincerely,

EPN (atb)

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

39 Donna Street
West Peabody, Mass. 01962

December 8, 1964

Dear Eric,

[redacted]

I heard about George, and I am afraid this is something I think will continue on and on until he gives up for good one of these days. I'm glad you got the Plates all right, and you're right about assumptions and all that, but, it does have the ball rolling, so we'll see what happens now. John Ford sent his back because it had a minor bend from the mail delivery, so I sent his money back. He probably thinks I'll send along a new one, but he has another guess coming. I told him I didn't have the negatives and would make no more copies, and naturally he shall think you have the negatives, and I'll let him go on that way. Actually the negatives belong to the Studio but I don't want to distribute them all over the place. On all the copies I sent out I marked the back "Not for reproduction or publication", and John was against that also, so now he can scratch himself.

Now, the reason I am writing is to tell you I have seen Stanley Scott while I was in New York this weekend, and I saw the Continental Dollar set. Ugh, what a disgusting sight. The presentation case was a plastic holder of lucite, with the following in it, CURRENCY, CURRENCY (E.g. F&C11), CURRENCY, the Indian Peace Medal with the Ringed reverse, and a cast copy of the CURRENCY in copper. The CURRENCY WAS UNC., THE CURRENCY (E.g. F&C11) Unc. but not nice, and the CURRENCY badly beaten up, the Peace medal well worn, the cast copy nice, but! What a let down, no? He also showed me 43 Massachusetts Silver pieces that he wanted $8,000.00, for which included about 5 VF pieces, all the rest junk. Oh well, so the bubble bursts. Incidentally, he wanted $4500.00 for the Continental Dollars.

Before you send along any 1775's for me to check, would it be possible to see the remainder of the Machin Mills pieces that I do not know of first?

Guess that is about it for now. Nothing else is new except I picked up a beautiful 1778 10-1 with no die breaks at all.

You should see Art Kagin trying to spend $250,000.00 at the ANA Convention, what a job. All the dealers were very happy to say the least. Gotta go.

Very sincerely,

Bob

December 11, 1964

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street - Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

Thank you for the information on the Stanley Scott matter. I was afraid it would end up as a dud.

I certainly would like, very much, to see your 1778 which you designated as 10T and wonder if you have taken its picture as yet. Would you be nice enough to let me see it and also let me know whether it is for sale. The trouble with us is that we may be competitors in collecting.

The incident with respect to Ford returning the photographic plates you sent him is irritating. I believe he knows that I do not have the negatives as I would send him a print without charge and he would be asking me for one if he thought I had the negatives. In any event, I am glad that you put "NOT FOR REPRODUCTION OR PUBLICATION" on the prints so as to avoid problems of this nature.

I am still working steadily on my burglary problem and cannot get to your Machin's matter before the holidays.

Why don't you sell a few more of the Massachusetts pieces? They seem to sell from the top grade down. When you sell one with a hole in it I will do a dance.

With kindest regards,

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

E[illegible]/atb

January 5, 1965

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
39 Donna Street - Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

I am enclosing, with my compliments, two Vernon medals which I hope you will enjoy.

I am also returning, herewith, your lovely 1778 imitation halfpence which has an amazingly choice obverse. I am returning another imitation belonging to you which has a U instead of V in GEORGIUS.

I already had, in my photo file, a picture of the obverse but it was combined with a different reverse. That reverse was dated 1774. I have no idea what the date on your reverse is because it is unreadable.

I am also returning a 1774 imitation of yours which I do not believe is an American product.

I hope you had a pleasant time at the Florida convention and am sorry that you cannot live on coins, alone, and that you are going back to work.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Robert A. Black

"Numismatist"

AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

TEL. NO. (617)
535-2828

39 DONNA STREET
WEST PEABODY, MASS. 01962

January 14, 1965

Dear Eric,

[redacted]

Thank you very much for the Vernon medals, they are now the beginning of my Betts Collection, which I shall expand upon one of these days.

I am glad to know the imitation with the U instead of a V was a Machins piece, or something like that. I wish I knew the date though. Incidentally, the Hoch, Craige 1776 specimen is now officially mine, we completed the trade.

I have enclosed two coins, the buzzer, which you mentioned some sort of a desire for, and is now yours, and a Massachusetts Pine Tree Shilling which I did buy in Florida for $115.00. If you are interested in the piece you can have it for $125.00 which will include any commission, okay? I think I may have the Pine Tree Sixpence sold for $40.00, which I offered the piece to you at. It was doggy, but the party only wanted to own one. Only 4 to go after that.

Thank you for the Plantation Token Booklet also. It makes for a lot easier handling while attending conventions.

[redacted] sincerely,

Bob

FORM #105

MEMORANDUM January 26, 1965

TO Mr. Robert A. Vlack FROM Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

My condolences on your going back to work.

I already have Noe 29 and am returning the same but appreciate your offering it to me. You should have no trouble selling it.

Thank you for the buzzer which I will fix with string for the purpose.

As soon as you sell some more of the Massachusetts pieces and work the loan down a little further I may send you some of the remaining ones which are resting here.

Unfortunately my work prevents me from writing you a long letter this time.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

Robert A. Black

"Numismatist"

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TEL. NO. (617)
535-2828

39 DONNA STREET
WEST PEABODY, MASS. 01962

February 26, 1965

Dear Eric,

Everything has certainly slowed down, has it not? I use to hear from you pretty regularly, but no longer. I am beginning to think for sure that perhaps I made a mistake by going back to work and eating regularly again, but enjoying life in general when it comes to numismatics.

I have enclosed a check to cover the sale of some more of the Massachusetts silver pieces. I have taken your advise and am not trying to make any sort of profit on these at all. These are now gone.

Oak Tree Twopence, Noe 31	$80.00	(#3 on List)
Pine Tree Shilling, Noe 16	70.00	(#11 on List)
Pine Tree Sixpence, Noe 33	40.00	(#14 on List)

I think this should please you somewhat. I also had the Noe 8 with the hole sold, but, the coin was returned as the guy was broke, or at least that is what he claimed. I must add another, I just sold the Noe 29 with the two holes in it for $60.00. The check is now made out for $250.00.

The two pieces left are the Noe 5 with the flan defect, and the Noe 8 with the hole in it.

As far as my activities goes, everything has slowed down considerably. I have completed the galley proofs on the Colonial Book so I know that is coming along nicely, and should be out about April. Nothing is new at Machin Mills.

I did not understand your last letter when you mentioned you were going to send me more pieces. Are you planning on selling the rest of the pieces you purchased from the Gaylord Collection? Explain.

I trust that everything else is all right. I may see you in Chicago.

Very sincerely,

Bob

March 2, 1965

Mr. Robert A. Vlack

Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

If you are coming to Chicago I would, of course, be delighted to see you.

I am just overwhelmed in more coin involvements than I should be and, for that reason, I have neglected much of my correspondence.

I am glad you have made good progress on the Massachusetts silver project.

There has been paid, to date, on the $1900 advance, the sum of $930. You still have two coins to sell at a listed price of $250 and $150 respectively. I have retained, as collateral, five pieces totaling $895. in listed prices and will send you some of these if you are in a position to sell them. I will probably buy a couple of them on the average cost basis. Please let me know your wishes.

Of the coins you have already sold, the cost basis is $853.25 for which you have received $930 so you have made $76.75 in addition to getting a fast shuffle on piece No. 11. This profit, of course, is all yours and I am hopeful that you can sell the remaining pieces and make some additional money for yourself.

I am very glad that your book is coming out this Spring as that will give you a big lift to have accomplished that important undertaking.

I wonder in what state Breen's annotations to Crosby are.

I am sorry you find work too dull to take the place of numismatic excitement. You can always quit work but you can't quit numismatics. It is an incurable disease.

Cordially,

EPN/atb

March 2, 1965

Mr. Robert A. Vlack

Eric P. Newman

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EPN/atb

Robert A. Black

"Numismatist"

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TEL. NO. (617)
535-2828

39 DONNA STREET
WEST PEABODY, MASS. 01962

March 10, 1965

Dear Eric,

This will be somewhat of a quickie. Besides the fact that the most enjoyable part of my trip was in getting together with you, which was at times somewhat difficult, I thought I would enclose this breakdown which I had been maintaining since the collection came into being.

As you will notice, I did not break the $2350 down to the $1900 across the board, which is apparently our difference. That amount in itself is a minor amount anyhow, but, I thought you might like to see this.

I shall also sell the other two remaining pieces at the $200 and $120 level now if I have to, as I feel as though I had them long enough, with no potential buyers for them at present. I do plan on showing them for sale at the Metropolitan Convention, and I hope to move them there. I have not given up on those yet.

I was talking to Ted Craige the other day, and asked him where he got all of the Vernon Medals. I remembered your questioning these in case George had possibly sold them, or his Father. Anyhow, I was reassured that these did not come from any source even remotely connected with the Fulds, and the group had been known for quite some time. This should put your mind at ease, at least for the present.

Would you be interested in a double struck Pine Tree Shilling, at least VG, Noe 16? The price is $150.00. An interesting piece.

The Convention was quite a dud for me as far as any buying or selling goes, but, I had fun while it lasted, and I hope you did too. I know you are planning on coming out here, and if possible, maybe we can get together. Nothing else is new.

Very sincerely,

Bob

EMERSON GAYLORD COLLECTION OF MASS. SILVER

	Oak Tree	LIST	COST	ERIC	SOLD	PROFIT
	1. Shilling, Noe 6	$175	$140	$140		
	2. Shilling, Noe 14	150	120		$150	$30
	3. Twopence, Noe 31	100	80		80	-
	Pine Tree					
	4. Shilling, Noe 1	$350	280		330	50
6 gr	5. Shilling, Noe 2	140	110	110		
	6. Shilling, Noe 5	325	260	260		
	7. Shilling, Noe 5	250	200			
	8. Shilling, Noe 8	150	120			
53½ gr	9. Shilling, Noe 9	135	100	100		
	10. Shilling, Noe 15	120	100	100		
	11. Shilling, Noe 16	70	70		70	-
	12. Shilling, Noe 16	275	220	220		
	13. Shilling, Noe 29	70	60		60	-
	14. Sixpence, Noe 33	40	40		40	-
		$2350	$1900	$930		
	15. Shilling, Noe 16		$175		$200	$25

Robert A. Black

"Numismatist"

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TEL. NO. (617)
535-2828

39 DONNA STREET
WEST PEABODY, MASS. 01962

March 17, 1965

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington Ave.
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Eric,

Enclosed are three medals I picked up from a single source with two other Vernons, and though I paid for them, ~~and~~ I gambled on whether or not they were any good. I know nothing of these and thought you might. The Blakney piece looks very interesting, but, I could find nothing on it anywhere, not that I could look too far.

The famous Vermont Collection was stolen from the Bennington Museum last Sunday, and now I am up to my neck in Police and F.B.I. agents. A lot of the dealers called me Monday night offering choice Vermonts, and when the number of dealers became 4, I became suspicious, especially considering the choiceness of the pieces ~~and~~ so. Tuesday I called the Bennington Museum to find out if anything was missing. They informed me of the robbery and was more than happy to get the tip they were being peddled in Boston. They swooped into Boston and located the culprit today. I just came back from identifying several of the pieces, only I am now going to be involved as an authority at a trial and all that sort of stuff. Anyhow, I'm glad some of it has been recovered, although there is a long way to go. They have about 12 of the 93 pieces thus far. Real spooky!

Well, so much for that. Let me know how you make out on these, although there is not the slightest bit of a hurry.

Very sincerely,

Bob

March 19, 1965

Mr. Bob Vlack

Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

I am enclosing herewith Pine Tree shillings Noe Nos. 2 and 9, which I have determined not to adquire for myself and, no doubt, you will be able to sell them and make some money on them. I believe you do not have them in your collection and you might be desirous of keeping them yourself.

I have gone over your distribution of cost as to the coins I am keeping and am perfectly willing to use your cost figures. I just want to be sure you make a few nickels on the transaction.

I am not at all sure that I will be able to get to see you on my Boston visit as I just have too much family involvement.

Incidentally, I understand the Bennington Historical Society had its lovely collection of Vermont coppers stolen. The crooks must be pretty hard up if they have to start stealing Colonials.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

March 26, 1965

Mr. Robert A. Vlack

Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

Congratulations on being Sherlock Holmes and solving the burglary of the Bennington Historical Museum. It is just a horror, the amount of burglary and robbery which is going on.

My only advice to you is to take the position that you are merely following the instructions of the authorities and not to indicate for the gossip columns or for the newspapers as to how big a part you played in it. I know you will get a great deal of satisfaction out of realizing that you knew your subject well enough to recognize the coins. Please solve my burglary now.

Kenny Bressett sent me a list of the missing Vermont items and it certainly must be a gorgeous collection.

I cannot help you at all on the medals you sent me. The Caroline one looks like a cast fake. They are returned herewith.

I am sorry that I had absolutely no time to come and visit you, in Boston, but a proper opportunity will arise again.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

Enc.

Robert A. Black

"Numismatist"

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TEL. NO. (617)
535-2828

39 DONNA STREET
WEST PEABODY, MASS. 01962

April 5, 1965

Dear Eric,

I have enclosed three goodies which I had mentioned to you over the phone, and which you thought you would like to see.

I am hoping that something can be done towards a possible trade for the duplicate Excelsior cent which you have, and which I would love to have for myself. See what you can do for me okay?

The prices I have on the envelopes are what I have them advertised for in a minor sort of price list which I have started putting out. I have been having reasonable success with it and some material seems to be moving rather well. I am using this for selling duplicates only, though, so it is not very extensive. If you know of anyone who collects Colonials, and would like to have a copy of the list, I would be more than happy to send it on. The amount of followers in this field appears to be somewhat meager, and I can always use new recruits.

I have been working with the F.B.I. and I think we have uncovered another 50 pieces, although I am not sure yet. A member of my club told me he was offered 55 pieces two weeks ago, but, instead of notifying the police or anyone, he told the offerer they were hot. Anyhow, I told this to the F.B.I. and one thing led to another and they are suppose to have caught someone. I am waiting for a call from them now. Other than that, all is quiet. How about your hoard, anything yet?

I'm sorry as all get-out that you couldn't help me on those medals. I was sure you must have some reference to them. Lord knows what I shall do with them now.

Well, let me know on these, and do me one favor, whatever you don't want send back as quickly as possible just in case someone can use them, okay? Two of them are real gems, yes?

Very sincerely,

Robert A. Black

"Numismatist"

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TEL. NO. (617)
535-2828

39 DONNA STREET
WEST PEABODY, MASS. 01962

April 13, 1965

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Missouri

Dear Eric,

I have enclosed two items which I thought you might be interested in seeing.

The Oak Tree Shilling to me appears to be somewhere between 13.3 and 13.6 although this may be my imagination working overtime. Anyhow, seeing as how you have done some work on this, I am sure you would know better.

The Washington piece is very interesting. I am convinced the piece is uniface although milling shows on both sides, however, the obverse is struck in the latest die state I have ever encountered and perhaps someone struck an obverse at a later time. Do you know anything of these pieces?

Guess that's it.

Very sincerely,

Bob

April 15, 1965

Mr.Robert A. Vlack

Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

I am sending back the three Oak Tree Shillings, the Pine Tree Shilling, and the Success Token, which you were nice enough to send me in your letters of April 5 and April 13. I don't think I am interested in any of the pieces for my collection.

I agree with you as to the Success Token, that it is definitely uniface, possibly caused by two planchets being struck at the same time. The beading impression on the back looks to me as though it could have been from the clashing effect of another coin.

As far as the Noe 13.3 is concerned, I left space for the gradual changes between 13 and 14, knowing that fellows, like you, would find coins like you sent me. You can guess how far along the line it is between the two notes and give it a number.

I just had a letter from Lynn Glaser, who certainly is a prodigious writer and who can do a lot of fine work. I wish he was not so hard pressed, financially, because he could probably do more work, but he seems to be selling articles rather steadily to the various publications. Frankly, the only reason I bring this up is that I wonder how you feel about the desire of so many writers to receive money for their writing with The Numismatist suffering because it does not pay anything. I am beginning to think it is an act of disloyalty for people to sell good material to the various publications and avoid The Numismatist for that reason. What could be done to prevent this? Should The Numismatist pay to those who would accept it, or should it be treated as a donation to the A.N.A. or what?

Hope your Sherlock Holmes activities are continuing.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely yours,

P.O.Box 14020
St. Louis, Missouri 63178

EPN/atb

CERTIFIED MAIL

September 25, 1964

Mr. Robert A.Vlack
39 Donna Street - Jordan Acres
West Peabody, Mass.

Dear Bob:

[redacted]

The check for the Connecticut rags is enclosed. I think the seller should give you an honorarium. I let a friend have them as they were too junky for me.

I am returning the false Elephant Token which you sent me and thank you for your cooperation. I have written the article but it still needs polishing.

I am also returning the 1781 imitation halfpence which is improved in its condition since I exchanged it for another 1781 which I had.

As to the Wood's 1724 piece, I find that it is my only specimen without the period after the date. Would you be nice enough to advise me whether there is any other 1724 lacking the period.

I am enclosing a photocopy of the list of your Massachusetts silver and have indicated on it the items which I am turning back to you for resale. I certainly hope you come out well and since you believe you made a good buy, I am sure that you willbe able to make nice sales. I have not made up my mind entirely on those I still have on hand but since there is no rush I will see how you come along in paying back the loan out of the proceeds being sold.

I switched Noe 16. The one sent to you has a fine planchet width but is not quite as nice as the one sent. See what you can get for it and then we can straighten that matter out.

I got a note from George and he indicated that he was not speaking to Anton.

Good luck on your catalog revision and even though I do not want my name on it, I appreciate you asking me and I am enthusiastic for your work.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN

Form #105

MEMORANDUM

May 7, 1965

TO Mr. Robert A. Vlack

FROM Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

Thank you, so much, for sending me the interesting imitations, for examination. I have written some comments on the envelopes.

Apparently the diecutters, on some of the evasion pieces, put their initials on the coins, and some of those you sent I have never seen before.

The 1747 is the nicest one I have ever seen and I am going to take its picture. I will return it later.

If you ever feel like parting with it, or exchanging it for mine, with an adjustment as to the difference, I would be pleased.

I have never noticed that the piece with D G REX had a misspelling on the reverse. It is listed in Batty, and I have seen,perhaps, five.

You may think I am a little off my rocker, but I am wondering if I sent to you a box of perhaps 50 1775 imitation British halfpence. This box was not taken in my burglary but I have searched in vain over the last few months and have been unable to find it.

I understand the woman in the Vermont copper matter was found and, I presume, they have forfeited her bond. This will make a fascinating tale if it ever gets unraveled.

I have decided not to go to Paris to the forgery convention as it is really for professionals. I certainly look forward to a report of the activities.

I will save up all the gossip until my next telephone call.

Thanks for being so nice and letting me have the opportunity to see your new finds and I will be returning them, promptly.

Sincerely,

EPN/tb

Robert A. Black

"Numismatist"

AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

TEL. NO. (617)
535-2828

39 DONNA STREET
WEST PEABODY, MASS. 01962

May 15, 1965

Dear Eric,

This Pine Tree Shilling is just something you have got to see. It arrived just yesterday, and upon examing it, it really has me buffaloed. First of all, it is an unlisted variety, secondly, the silver appears to be all right and the workmanship, however, it too closely resembles Noe 17, even to the letter spacing and the H over H, the peculiar N in NN, and the large and small lettering in England.

In poking around the coin to find out what sort of crustation it had, this whole shell came off, and this I believe is the clue to everything, some sort of analysis to find out what it is. I did have access to equipment once, but no longer, and I thought maybe you did. Incidentally, there is no period between W and NEW as on Noe 17. After all this it may be all right, but I have a suspicious mind it did come from ENGLAND, how about that. If you think it is okay, then it is of course a brand new variety and I am way ahead of the game, otherwise, this is a beautiful counterfeit, good enough to fool anyone. You'll notice some of the crustation still in the planchet crack.

I have also enclosed a check for two more of the Pine Tree Shilling which sold at the Metropolitan Convention in New York. Listed as follows:

8.	Pine Tree Shilling Noe 8	Cost	$120.00	Sold $140.00	Profit	$20.00
9.	Pine Tree Shilling Noe 9	"	100.00	" 120.00	"	20.00

This leaves me with the Noe 5 (No. 7) and Noe 2 (No, 5), which is a specimen I need and shall probably keep. I am having one heck of a job with the Noe 5 because of the defect, maybe I should clip it out and sell it as a mint defect.

That's about it for now. Do me a favor and kindly return the Shilling as quickly as possible so I shall know how to act on the piece. The owner wants $105.00 for the piece, which is certainly worth it if genuine, but my curiosity has me aroused.

Very sincerely,

Bob

P.S. In ~~checking your letter~~ checking your letter your question about the 1775 English Halfpence. You mentioned these to me, but, I asked that they not be sent as I was more interested in the Nachin pieces at that particular moment, but perhaps later on, so, I do not have them, sorry.

Robert A. Black

"Numismatist"

AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

TEL. NO. (617)
535-2828

39 DONNA STREET
WEST PEABODY, MASS. 01962

March 17, 1965

Dear Eric,

I thought you might enjoy seeing this lot, which was part of a collection that I purchased in Boston today. Some of the pieces are real weird, such as the one with the bust and only II for Georgivs II.

Also note the very lovely 1747 which was also in the lot. I hadn't noticed as lovely a piece anywhere, and wonder if you had. Rather than try to be too selective in what the lot included, I added only those which might be even remotely interesting.

The "evasions" are also somewhat unusual as only one of them is listed in the Atkins reference, which I have found to be pretty good in the past. The others, some of which I assume are English counterfeits, are also interesting, especially a couple of them.

~~The~~ There were seven others, two regal issues (Farthing 1773, Halfpence 1740) two known evasions of the common variety, and three 1775 Counterfeit Halfpence, which are very much like the regular counterfeits.

In this lot is a GEORGIVS III D G REX, the likes of which I have never seen or heard of. The reverse is BRITAN NIA. I presume this is also an evasion, but, would appreciate your comments.

Notice the counterstamped piece also on an evasion, also unlisted. Any comments?

Have fun.

Very sincerely,

Bob

May 18, 1965

Mr. Robert A. Vlack

Eric P.Newman

Dear Bob:

With respect to the $1900 loan to buy the Massachusetts silver, my calculations are as follows:

I am going to buy items Nos. 1, 6 and 10, the value of which are listed at a total of $620 out of the grand total of $2350. I, therefore,will be paying $501.28 as the cost thereof. This will leave a total of $1398.72 due from you to me on the loan. You have already paid back $1190.00, leaving a balance of $208.72 due.

Will you be kind enough to check the foregoing figures and let me know if this is not correct.

Sincerely,

P.S. I located the imitation halfpence dated 1775 which I had misplaced.

EPN

EPN/atb

May 18, 1965

Mr. Robert A. Vlack

Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

The Pine Tree shilling which you sent me on May 15, 1965 astounded me as it astounded you. I have never seen anything like it. I believe it is an early state of Noe 17 and is not a different variety. It weighs only 61 grains and therefore has had substantial deterioration or edge filing.

I believe that the coin was buried with other coins on the top or bottom of it. Perhaps it may have been from the Castaing hoard. Either brackish water or some chemical in moist soil caused an incrustation of the surface to form. This ate away not only the field but also the sides of the lettering. The top of the lettering may have had an incrustation which was buffed off before you got the coin or might have been protected by being up against another coin. The missing period (.) between O and N on the reverse may have become part of the crust and flicked off. If you look at the ET on the obverse you will see that this incrustation probably covered all the letters at one time. I do not understand why the outside edge is so shiney unless it has been filed and cleaned. It is not smooth as would have resulted from wear.

I certainly think you should buy the coin and if you don't, give me the chance.

I just think it is eaten away to such an extent by natural chemical action that it looks different, particularly the second S in MASSACHUSETTS.

It probably was cleaned with a tool which caused straight sides on the 6 but I do not feel there was any fraudulent intent with respect to it.

I hope I have been helpful and appreciate the opportunity of seeing the coating as well as the coin.

It is returned herewith.

EPN/atb

May 21, 1965

Mr. Robert A. Vlack

Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

It was fun talking to you last night.

I am returning the 1747 imitation halfpence, along with some prints of a picture I took of it. My pictures are not of the quality of yours, but they serve my purposes.

Thanks, again, for letting me see it.

E N/atb

June 24, 1965

Mr. Robert A. Vlack

Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

A chemical analysis is being made of the metal which popped off the surface of the Pine Tree piece. I have not been advised of the results as yet.

Picker thinks this is a bad coin, apparently. Why don't you tell me from whom you got the coin as long as you told him as it might possibly help me. What additional facts does he think give rise to suspicion?

Fortunately, a great part of Percy's collection was put away in the vault, as when I saw him earlier this year, I begged him to get the stuff out of his apartment. It seems like they are the same people who took the Yale material. Now let's see you uncover some Yale stuff.

I have looked over your two George III halfpence with the U instead of V. The dates, of course, are pitiful. I agree with you that the one which looks like it might be a 1742 must be a 1772 because of the obverse which is George III. Do you want to part with these or with one of them, as I think you already have ~~either or~~ both. They are both alike on obverse and reverse dies, as you know.

I do not happen to have the Oak Tree shilling which you sent to me but it is not in nice enough condition to intrigue me. I am returning it herewith. They are enclosed

I already have a Vermont Ryder 28 so, unfortunately, I don't need that, either.

Things are really exciting in this coin racket. Now I am in hot water on the Bible Bill as I think parts of it are good.

Cordially,

E P N
atb

Robert A. Black

"Numismatist"

AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

TEL. NO. (617)
535-2828

39 DONNA STREET
WEST PEABODY, MASS. 01962

July 6, 1965

Dear Eric,

I have received the note from the Cerro Copper & Brass Company, and at present I am not sure this is adequate proof, although I could be wrong. Is is possible to get a statement to the effect that this sampling could only have accumulated through lets say, 300 years of deterioration? As far as using more of the pieces, I would say this is up to you, as long as it achieves what is necessary to validate the piece. I do think though, that it would be a good idea to photograph the scraps as the outline of the trees play a very important part of this discovery, do you agree?

Mr. Picker could not find any more specimens while on his trip to England, and as long as we're on that subject, you requested the source. I obtained the piece from Harry Crosley, 22 Goston Gardens, Thornton Heath, Surrey, England. I still am of the opinion that the piece is genuine.

In due time I shall send you one of the GEORGIUS III pieces of which you have examined both. I would like a bit more time to play with them trying to see if I can make something out of the missing date.

I am sorry to see you get involved in the Bible bill. I am in agreement with parts of it myself, but, am voicing my opinion to no one. Apparently you found this difficult to do.

Have enclosed a set of prints of the Mass. piece for your files. I am also in the process of getting my stuff to the vaults, finally.

I think you missed a good bet on the Mass piece I sent you. It is now worth about $165.00. You can always get a better one later. I still have the piece in case you change your mind.

Nothing else is new, on robberies or anything else. Will look forward to more results on the sampling.

Very sincerely,

Bob

P.S. Is your Zip Code 63178 or 63102 ?

October 15, 1965

Mr. Robert A. Vlack

Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

[redacted]

I will be talking to you, shortly, but, in the meantime I wanted to return the sliver which I saved from the lamination from the Pine Tree shilling you sent me. I still feel it is a perfectly legitimate coin.

I also wonder if you are in a position, now, to pay back the balance of $208.72 on our transaction or whatever figure you felt was right by your bookkeeping method.

I have never heard one bit of information as to my coins which were burglarized. I even heard a rumor that poor Mr. Rideout's coins were being openly sold in Boston. Could this really be true?

Hope you and yours are in good shape and will look forward to talking to you as soon as I get a chance.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

October 22,1965

Mr. Bob Vlack

Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob,

By book post, I am sending you, in accordance with our understanding last night, Jeptha R. Simms "History of Schoharie County". It has so much material on Thomas Machin that I thought you might want it.

I am enclosing a photocopy of my invoice from Goodspeeds and you can send them a check for the amount to cover this item.

I'll send you prints of the Stiver as soon as I receive them.

Kindest regards,

EPN/atb

February 7, 1966

Mr.Robert Vlack

Eric P.Newman

Dear Bob:

I saw a copy of your book, in Chicago, over the week end. How about ordering one for me?

Sincerely,

E N/atb

P.O.Box 14020
St. Louis, Missouri 63178

February 15,1966

Mr. Robert Vlack

Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

Thank you, very much, for sending me "Early American Coins". I will certainly read it with great interest. Naturally, I have read the portion on Machins Mills and expect you to create a little stir with that inclusion.

Since the book is dated in 1965 I can include it in my write-up of numismatic accomplishments for the years 1960 through 1965.

I am particularly interested in knowing the source of your comments about the Pitt Token, that it was designed by Paul Revere and engraved by Smithers, of Philadelphia. Could you give me the source of that information?

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

EPN/stb

February 11, 1966

Mr. Richard August
[redacted]

Dear Mr. August:

The copper plate you submitted containing an engraving purporting to be a $6 Maryland bill of credit of the April 10, 1774 emission has been carefully studied.

I am enclosing a photocopy of a genuine bill of the identical denomination and issue and you will note that the genuine bills are made from a combination of set type, engraved border cuts and an engraved arms cut rather than from an intaglio. Therefore the plate is not genuine.

I am enclosing a photocopy of a counterfeit of the $6 1770 issue which was printed at that time from an engraved plate but you will note that the position and size of the lettering is altogether different from that on your engraved plate.

The plate has an error in that the "t" is omitted in the word "at" on the fifth line of the text. This is apparently because the "at" did not print well in the original bills. At the end of the eighth line the word "AN" is much oversize in both the original and on the plate; similarly, every letter, ornament and vignette in the original is exactly the same general size as on the plate and in the same general position.

In examining the plate one can see that the second "L" of the word "HALL" in the seventh line is badly eaten away with acid as are areas around "ND" in "LONDON" in the fifth line and the center of the "R" in "MARYLAND. You will also note that the first "C" in the Roman date is only partially etched. This proves, positively, that the plate is a photoengraving of poor quality and was intended to make souvenirs or fakes. The photoengraving process was, of course, not developed until after photography was developed and therefore the plate

February 11, 1966

would have to be produced within the last 100 years.

If the plate had numbering or signatures on it it could have been for an illustration in a book but since it has neither it appears that it is intended to be filled in by hand.

You therefore have a plate for a modern fake and do not have a Colonial counterfeit plate. The plate is returned herewith and, unfortunately, is of no importance.

It was a pleasure to have the opportunity to examine this item.

Very truly yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN
atc

P.S. I assume you forgot to enclose the $1 as it was not in the package.

EPN

cc: Mr. Richard Black

Connecticut

May 10 1775	40s
June 7 1776	1s
June 19 1776	6d
	9d
	1/6
Oct 11, 1777	2d } this paper
	3d }
	4d }
	5d }
	7d }
March 1, 1780	10s
	20s
June 1, 1780	9d
	1/3
	2/6
	5s
	10s
July 1, 1780 (complete)	

Delaware

Jan 1, 1776	1/6
	2/6
	4s
	20s

Georgia

1776 4th Issue	$2
Sept 10, 1777	$4/5

Maryland

April 10, 1774	$ 1/3
	$ 1/2
	$ 2/3
	$ 1
	$ 2
	$ 4
	$ 6
	$ 8
March 1, 1770	$ 1
	8

Maryland

Dec 7 1775	$ 1/3
	$ 4

Massachusetts

May 5, 1780	$ 1, $ 2, $ 3, $ 4, $ 5, $ 7, $ 20

New Jersey

April 10 1759	£ 3
	£ 6
Dec 31, 1763	1 s
	6 s
	12 s
March 25, 1776	1 s
	18 d
	3 s
	12 s
	15 s
	30 s
	£ 3

New York

April 15, 1758	£ 5
	£ 10
Feb 16, 1771	£ 3, £ 5, £ 10
Sept 2, 1775	$ 1
March 5, 1776	$ 1/6, $ 2/3
Aug 2, 1775 NYMW	4 s, 8 s
Jan 6, 1776 "	4 s
Feb 20, 1790 1 d.	

North Carolina

June 10 1768	5 s
Aug 8 1778	$ 1/4
	$ 5 RISING STATES
May 10 1780	$ 25 QUID
	$ 25 JUSTITIA

Pennsylvania

June 15, 1764	20 s
March 20, 1771	10 s, 15 s
April 3, 1772	3d, 2s, 4/6,
March 20, 1773	4 s
Oct 1, 1773	5 s, 10 s, 15 s, 50 s
March 25, 1775	14 s
April 10, 1775	£ 5
July 20, 1775	30 s
Oct 25, 1775	9d, 1s, 1/6, 2/6, 20 s.
April 25, 1776	9d, 1s, 2s, 2/6, 20s, 30s
April 10, 1777	3d, (c)
New State Ones	4d, (A)(c)
	6d (A)
	9d (A)(B)(c)
	3, 6, 12, 16, 20
April 10, 1777	
In Roll & Block	16 s

Rhode Island

May 3, 1775	3s
July 2, 1780	(complete
May 1786	6d, 9d, 2/6, 3, 6, 10, 40, 3 £

South Carolina

June 1, 1775	£ 10, £ 20
Dec 23, 1776	$ 3
Feb 8, 1779	$ 90.

Vermont

Feb 1781	1 s

Virginia

May 5 1777	$ 1/6
Oct 20 1777	$ 10
July 14, 1780	$ 60
	$ 80
March 1, 1781	$ 250

Continental Currency

May 10, 1775	3 - 7 - 30
Nov 29, 1775	1 - 2 -
Feb 17, 1776	1/6 B, 1/6 C, 1/3 A, 1/3 C, 1/2 ABC, 2/3 ABC, 1 - 2 - 3 - 7
May 9, 1776	3 - 8
July 22, 1776	6 - 7
Nov 2, 1776	4 - 8
Feb 26, 1777	9 - 30
Sept 26, 1778	Complete
Jan 14, 1779	2 - 4 - 20 - 35 - 40 - 45 - 50 - 55 - 65 - 70 - 80

February 25, 1966

Mr.Robert Vlack

Eric P.Newman

Dear Bob:

Thank you for sending me the list of your Colonial Currency, which seems to include a lot of items. I, naturally, want to improve any items I have in my collection and therefore would appreciate it if you would send to me the items listed below. Some of the items I am asking you to send are very minor varieties.

Massachusetts:	May 5, 1780; all denominations which are not holed.
Georgia:	September 10, 1777; $4/5
New York:	April 15, 1758;£5
Pennsylvania:	June 18, 1764; 20 shillings
	April 3,1772; 3 pence
	April 25,1776; 9 pence
Rhode Island:	May 3, 1775; 3 shillings
Virginia:	May 5, 1777; $1/6

Maybe I am silly to collect minor varieties but if it gives me pleasure I guess that is the thing to do. Please place reasonable prices on the items.

I have not submitted your offer to the owner of the Colonial paper money collection I have because the owner is ill. I want to time the matter properly.

I told your wife that I was most anxious to know about another specimen of the New England Stiver which you were supposed to have seen. I am anxious to determine the facts as to the matter as Jerry Trelins told me you would be familiar with it. I believe Bowers specimen was exhibited in Boston, once, and wonder if you saw that one then.

Kindest regards,

EPN/atb

Robert A. Black

"Numismatist"

AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

TEL. NO. (xxx)
xxxxxxx

xxxxxxxxxxxxx
xxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxxx
LaPerle Ave.
Plaistow, New Hamp. 03865

March 26, 1966

Dear Eric,

Enclosed find the check for $1,600.00, which I have dated for April 1, 1966, and this is assuming that you will have sent your check in time to have it deposited by then.

I have also enclosed my Excelsior Cent for you to ponder over. As I have mentioned over the telephone, I feel it is a cast counterfeit only there is enough doubt because of the nice ring to it that I bought the piece and took the gamble. Anyhow, your opinion would be welcomed one way or the other.

I am really looking forward to receiving the notes. This will keep me busy for a while I assure you. I shall let you know of my reaction when I see them.

Very sincerely,

Bob

FORM #105

March 29, 1966

MEMORANDUM

TO Mr. Robert A. Vlack

FROM Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

I hope by now you have received the group of Colonial notes. I know you will be very pleased as I think I did you a great favor in getting you this group and I certainly wanted to do you a favor.

I also returned the few paper bills that you sent other than the two we talked about. I believe I am to send you something for the two ragged bills which I kept.

You said you needed $600 to make good the check which you are issuing to Milton B. Smith and I am loaning you $600 for the purpose. I understand that this will be repaid within three months.

We talked about you repaying the balance on the Pine Tree matters, even if you have not already sold the last piece, and I do not recall whether you said you would do this or not.

Thank you for sending me the other pieces to study and I will be writing you on those very promptly.

Kindest regards,

Eric

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
La Perle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

EPN/atb

March 29, 1966

Mr. Milton B. Smith

Eric P. Newman

Dear Mr.Smith:

In accordance with your letter of March 21, 1966, I have sold the collection of early American paper money which you sent to me for the sum of $1600.00 and enclose herewith check #16 of Robert A. Vlack payable to your order.

I certainly hope that you will be able to open your Wonder Shop, again, or do something else that satisfies you.

I will always remember the cooperation you gave me in helping me work up the Georgia section of my forthcoming book and the various writings you undertook.

Let me hear from you, again, when you have a more permanent address.

Kindest regards,

Mr. Milton B. Smith
Hebron Colony
Route 3
Boone, North Carolina

EPN/atb

FORM #105

April 4, 1966

MEMORANDUM

TO Mr. Robert Vlack

FROM Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

The Excelsior weighs 111½ grains. Its specific gravity is 9.3. This can't be pure copper and be so high in specific gravity. Perhaps some lead is mixed in. The lettering is spread, not from wear. It looks like a cast and the specific gravity so indicates.

Your Noe 36 and 37 are returned with the Excelsior.

You certainly must have a nice group of Massachusetts silver and I thank you for letting me see them.

I hope you liked the Colonial paper and look forward to your comments.

Best regards,

EPN
atb

Robert A. Black

"Numismatist"

AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

TEL. NO. (617)
535-2828

LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hamp. 03865

April 9, 1966

Dear Eric,

I have just received the Excelsior and the Massachusetts Silver pieces. I was a bit disappointed in the Excelsior, but, that's the way it goes sometimes. At least you've confirmed my beliefs as well.

I have been having one hell-of-a time with all those notes. Your grading was for the most part all right although I probably would have disagreed with you here and there, but overall, okay. The Georgia's were certainly very nice and made the collection worth the price. One of the Georgia's in the plastic was noted as probably unique, is this true? This was the one marked as such: 800 Pounds issued March 12, 1774 for defence against the indians. I believe you had this listed as (1775). Incidentally, the holders are delightful and after seeing them I would have killed you for not sending them.

Some of the holders were also marked as rare and all that sort of stuff in another pen, did you do this? I am not sure why some of them are suppose to be rare. I do know the John Hart pieces are somewhat scarce and in demand because of the signature, but the others I am not sure.

I noticed the box you wrapped them up in had an advertisement for the preserves as "WILD AND RARE", were you being a wise guy or something? Now I have a job trying to unload the duplicates, and of course that is always a job as these are not sought after as much as the coins, and those are bad enough to unload. It must be a fascinating study to find out who all the signers were. I imagine your book will have all of this covered adequately if I know you.

Before I go too far and you get any wrong impression about the notes, I am delighted to have them, and thank you for getting them for me. My wife is not too happy because of the money, but once they are paid for we will be at peace with the world. I shall by the way, pay the other $120.00 for the Massachusetts Shilling, in all probability when I pay the $600.00. Some day someone will buy the piece. You warned me on this if I remember correctly.

Gotta go.

Very sincerely,

Bob

April 15, 1966

Mr. Robert A. Vlack

Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

I am glad you are pleased with the Colonial paper money.

In so far as printed statements on the plastic are concerned, some are true and some are not. Nothing is unique.

I may have made a mistake in marking the 1774 issue as 1775 on my list so please forgive me.

I did not write on the holders at all and the comments were put on by someone else before the notes were sent to me.

I got a laugh out of the fact that they were packed in a preserve box. I didn't even know what kind of a box they were packed in so don't accuse me of being humorous when you were the one who dug up the joke.

I wanted to send you a chewed up item for the chewed up items I took of yours and I am enclosing a very rare 1746 Delaware piece printed by Franklin. This is printed by Franklin, alone, and not by Franklin and Hall. We will each, therefore, have completed an exchange of rags.

Tell your wife to cheer up; that even though you still owe $720 to me that you have assets better than money.

My book will have all of the signatures but, as far as signature rarity, that is almost impossible to determine. The important thing is that signatures of the signers of the Declaration of Independence are collected while no other signatures are.

My very kindest regards to you.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

Robert A. Black

"Numismatist"

AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

TEL. NO. (617)
535-2828

LaPerle Ave.
Plaistow, New Hamp. 03865

May 18, 1966

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Missouri 63178

Dear Eric,

Enclosed find my check for $720.00 which is the total amount I owe you, and I believe that makes us free and clear. I figure I had better pay you while I have the opportunity before I find something else to spend it on. If this does not agree with you, let me know.

I have received the rag of a note you sent me and I have a question to ask of you on this. Was there other notes of the same ~~year~~ issue put out by Hall and Franklin, or, are they all just Franklins with this date? Date was Feb. 28, 1746.

Incidentally, just for the record, you still have a Virginia Note to trade for as well, don't we? And I thought when we talked over the telephone we agreed to exchange a coin or two instead of notes. You must be getting somewhat aged ole boy. I'm not complaining, just confused at times. Just like you ~~xxxx~~ was going to send me a set of the Virginia Coin varieties photographs, remember?

Gotta go, much to do. Nothing much else is new.

Very sincerely,

Bob

June 2, 1966

Mr. Robert Vlack

Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

Thanks for your check which clears up the loan situation.

I thought that the 1746 note which I sent you was rare enough to easily cover the two rags I got in exchange.

I am not suffering from loss of memory at all.

None of the 1746 issue were printed by Hall and Franklin as that firm was not formed at that time.

I haven't forgotten about sending you a set of Virginia pictures. The coin photographer who is helping me in his spare time is in the moon project and is an expert on moon pictures. He has neglected me completely in favor of the moon.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

Robert A. Black

"Numismatist"

AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

TEL. NO. (617)
535-2828

39 DONNA STREET
WEST PEABODY, MASS. 01962

June 7, 1965

Dear Eric,

I have enclosed three pieces for you to ponder over. The Massachusetts Oak Tree Shilling is for sale, and is one of the better varieties. If you can use the piece, it is yours for $120.00, if not, return the piece and I shall probably sell it for $135.00 with little trouble.

I've located another of the American made English Counterfeits, only this one has more of the date showing. I sent you the other once before and though the obverse was recognizable to you, the reverse was new. This is, I think, the same piece, although there are minute differences, and it has more of a date to look at. I think it is 1772, with a deceptive appearance of being a 1742. I thought you might like to see these and pass comments.

I guess you have heard about Percy Rideouts robbery by now. He is absolutely sick over losing 40 to 50 years of collecting, and with a value of close to $250,000. dollars. It really scares the hell out of me.

I have more to write next letter as I have had quite a discussion over the other Pine Tree Shilling, which is now up in the air. I think a lot of what comes of this depends upon the chemical analysis you come up with. I hope it is genuine as Dick is so cock sure it is a phoney. I gave him the name and address of who I got the piece from, and he is going to try and obtain another. I wish him well.

Meanwhile, nothing much else is new.

Very sincerely,

Bob

P.S. I have a Vermont Ryder 28 in VF for sale at $200.00. Interested? Bennington piece was only VG so don't worry.

July 29, 1966

Mr. Robert Vlack

Eric P. Newman

Re: Woods Coinage

Dear Bob:

You classified my 1723 Woods farthing in silver as $2.5a^1$ K 101^1. I believe you obtained a piece from Albert Baldwin and I was wondering if you could give me the die variety of that item.

Do you plan to be at the convention, as I would enjoy seeing you there.

Sincerely

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 23, 1967

Mr. Robert Vlack
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

Dear Rob:

I want to congratulate you on your great find of a new obverse and a new reverse of a Pine Tree Shilling. I spent all day Saturday working on it and what a pleasant bit of fun it was. I pored over its features and checked and rechecked them against my Noe 12. The same die maker made both. I'll guess that your piece came from the Destine hoard too. Its short weight of 57 grains could be due to its obverse being eaten away chemically or polished off or both. I'm sorry its obverse is terrible.

In my opinion there is no doubt that it is genuine. I cannot find anything to doubt, even a little bit, and I'm not sick.

I want to take its picture and give you a full report of the details I have noted.

God bless your studious perseverance. Hail to the discoverer. Thanks for sending it me to and shortly I'll get it to you, or, if you want, to Picker.

Sincerely,

Eric

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN
atb

A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION FOR EDUCATION
THROUGH RESEARCH AND EXHIBITION
OF COINS, CURRENCY AND HISTORIC OBJECTS

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

Vlack file

February 7, 1967

Mr. Richard Picker
P.O. Box 123
Albertson, Long Island, New York

Dear Dick:

Under separate cover, or perhaps herewith, I am sending you eight pictures of the front and back of the famous quadruple strike. This is a fascinating item and must have been done deliberately. I am likewise returning the coin itself, for which I wish to have you thank the owner and apologize for my delay. The delay was due entirely to my photographer being extensively involved in lunar photography.

In accordance with instructions from Bob Vlack, I am enclosing the new variety Pine Tree shilling which he calls No. 38. Will you please turn it over to him after you have finished with it. I have already taken pictures of it, which will be available shortly.

I certainly consider it a major find and look forward to your opinion. I will send you my notes on it if you wish to see them but I thought it would be best if your thoughts were individually formulated before being biased by my findings.

I hope you had a successful time in California and will talk to you, shortly.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/etb

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THROUGH RESEARCH AND EXHIBITION
OF COINS, CURRENCY AND HISTORIC OBJECTS

FORM #105

February 14, 1967

MEMORANDUM

TO Mr. Robert Vlack

FROM Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

You think you have been neglected. I am just one person and working on the completion of the distribution of my book, doing the Assay Commission activity, working on testimony for the PNG hearing, speaking here and there, etc. has just slowed me down.

I am returning herewith the eleven counterfeits from the Stearns collection which you were nice enough to send tome. I am sending you photocopies of my notations with respect to them. I have taken pictures of all of them and will send you prints of all the pictures as soon as I can get to the photographer. I have the negatives. I am sending you a pair of slides covering one of them.

I am returning herewith, also, your New England sixpence, which I believe is a forgery, and a copy of my notations with respect toit.

I am also sending you a large blow-up of the reverse of your new discovery. A better picture should be taken but this will be interesting to have on hand. I sent it to Richard Picker, as you instructed me.

Please feel free to make whatever suggestions you feel would be improvements for EARLY PAPER MONEY OF AMERICA.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

CERTIFIED MAIL

FORM #105

February 14, 1967

MEMORANDUM

TO Mr.Robert Vlack

FROM Eric P.Newman

Dear Bob:

You inquired about Machin's Mill and I am pleased to tell you that I am beginning to work on it now.

I would like to borrow either a good photograph or the actual specimen of your No. 5, which is the second of the 1774 pieces which you illustrate in your book.

I am beginning to assemble all of my photographs so that I can coordinate the varieties. I have mounds of historical material with respect to these and have to sift through for the interesting elements. You probably have some more unknown pieces since we last went into the matter. Send me whatever you think I should be working with.

Thanks, again, for your helpfulness.

Sincerely yours,

EPN/atb

February 28, 1967

Mr. Robert A. Vlack

Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

Enclosed are the pictures I promised of the Pine Tree forgeries.

Your Machins Mill pieces are on hand.

Your two little early paper issues also arrived and I am sending a Xerox or so of the 1789 piece. I will include it in EARLY PAPER MONEY OF AMERICA as supplementary material, or a second edition, if there is one.

I will get to the St. Patrick matter in due course.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

FORM #105

April 10, 1967

MEMORANDUM

TO Mr. Robert A. Vlack || FROM Eric P. Newman

Dear St. Patrick,

Picker sent me a forgery of Noe 17. It is definitely a forgery. If it is from the same die as the piece you discovered then I have to withdraw my opinion. It looks like they plated your piece in order to build up its weight. Did yours come from England, and from whom?

Cordially,

EPN/atb

FORM #105

April 10, 1967

MEMORANDUM

TO Mr. Robert Vlack

FROM Eric P.Newman

Dear Bob:

Thank you for advising me about the 1779 5 shilling 6 pence. My listing of the 5 shilling 8 pence is a typographical error, for which I apologize. In the listing of sheets in the back you will see 5 shillings 6 pence is correctly listed there.

Plesse keep looking for my errors.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

April 14, 1967

Mr. Robert Vlack

Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob,

Under separate cover there is being sent to you my collection of St. Patrick pieces consisting of five halfpence, two farthings in silver, and twenty-one farthings in copper.

Please feel free to make any notations on the envelopes and renumber them in accordance with your system.

I would like to have them back more promptly than I return things but, unfortunately, I don't do my own photography any more and it takes forever for me to get satisfactory pictures.

I am returning the two pieces of early American paper money which you sent me. These are with the halfpence.

I am still working on the photography of some of the Machin's pieces you sent to try to get better pictures. I hope to accomplish this soon so that I can return them.

Picker and Craige are going to have a lot of fun with the Pine Tree situation and it will be interesting to see the results.

On the forgery of Noe 17, I am still trying to figure out how this was done. Your piece was apparently plated after it was forged. I never condemn a piece unless I have positive evidence of its being bad and the specimen which Picker got from England furnished that positive evidence.

My very best wishes.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

May 10, 1967

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
C/o Barbizon Plaza Hotel
New York, New York

Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

Thank you, very much, for the news about the appearance of the George III halfpence.

I tried to telephone you but spoke to your wife, and could not get you at the Barbizon Plaza Hotel in New York.

The fundamental fact about the imitation halfpence which were stolen from me is that there were 70 mounted in holders - all from 1770 through 1775; none beyond 1775. There was also a box with 20 to 30 1775 pieces. There were none of the evasion type that were stolen.

All of the foregoing were in decent readable condition. The poorer grade ones they did not take as they were in envelopes of 10 or 15 each.

I could identify a number of the coins which were taken but have no way of going through my pictures and determining the ones which were taken unless I check a great deal. There could not have been many of them whose pictures were taken.

I suggest that an effort be made to buy the group. They should not contain any American made pieces if they are mine.

Please tell me who these people are, or how they can be contacted, and what we should do.

Thank you, so much, for your consideration.

Sincerely,

CC:
Mr. Robert A. Vlack
LePerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

May 10, 1967

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
C/o Harbizon Plaza Hotel
New York, New York

Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

As to the St. Patricks, I do not like the idea of you working on them, in New York, and leaving them in a hotel room.

My suggestion is that you work on the silver ones and the halfpence and some of the rarer farthings, promptly, and then either return them or put them in your safe deposit for return later; then, at least, you cut down the risk if you have to work on a few farthings, in New York.

Have fun at school.

Sincerely,

CC:
Mr. Robert A. Vlack
Laverle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

Robert A. Black

"Numismatist"

AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

TEL. NO. (617)
535-2828

LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hamp. 03865

May 6, 1967

Dear Eric,

Just a note to assure you that I have the St. Patrick pieces all right and not to worry about them. I believe I had to sign a return receipt for them so you must know this already.

The reason for this note is to let you know that I shall be attending New York University for a month for an advanced course on Thin Film Technology at ~~their~~ their graduate school. This sort of curtails any efforts for the moment on St. Patrick, though I plan on bringing the whole works with me in case I have time to work on them.

Nothing else is new at the moment. I finally sold the last of the Pine Tree Shillings from that batch I received back from you. Actually I traded it for something else.

I haven't heard anything from Picker yet on the forgeries. I saw him in New York during the Metropolitan Convention for a short time.

Would you kindly do me a favor? When you get the Machin Mills pieces photographed, not mine especially, but the ones of which I do not apparently know of, I would like to see them for myself so I will know what to look for. I am still waiting for the Virginia Plates.

Just in case, I will be staying at the Barbizon Plaza Hotel in New York and can be reached anytime after six, unless I am out somewhere. I will be coming home every weekend from Friday to Sunday night.

Am having fun with St. Patrick.

Very sincerely,

Bob

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

June 5, 1967

Mr. Charles Gore
98 Park Street
North Reading, Mass. 01864

Dear Mr. Gore:

You have no idea how appreciative I am of your and Bob Vlack's cooperation in connection with my personal 1964 coin burglary. The counterfeit halfpence stolen from me certainly matched the description of your pieces, until I saw them. I cannot find any in your group which match my pictures or which I remember owning. There are more in your group than I lost of the George III type. There are probably a group of 1770, 1771 and 1772 still to come from the collection you are buying.

I am therefore returning your collection under separate cover with postage you advanced.

I shall always respect you for your confidence in me as I know these coins meant much to you. I will gladly cooperate with you in the future if you undertake any writing and research on the English counterfeits. I am writing up the American counterfeits and will illustrate and discuss some examples of British-made pieces. I intend to mention your collection in connection with dispersion of dates of British-made pieces.

Thank you for your help.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN
atb

CC: Mr. Robert Vlack

A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION FOR EDUCATION
THROUGH RESEARCH AND EXHIBITION
OF COINS, CURRENCY AND HISTORIC OBJECTS

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

June 5, 1967

Mr.Robert A. Vlack
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

Dear Bob:

Under separate cover your Machins are returned. I am most grateful to have had them. I weighed them and studied them. I think after all these years I have enough pieces located to be fairly complete. I know you will keep looking. All the other pieces I know are combinations or related by die connection to pieces you know.

This fall I will write the story and it will be a workout. I think the pictures I have are adequate. Yale once had some scarce ones which I photographed so I expect you to turn those up in due course.

Thank you for the work on the Gore matter. My letter is self-explanatory.

I hope you can return my St.Patrick by July 1 now that your schooling is over. Have you ever had a copy of Walter's classification? You seem to understand it.

Kindest regards,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN
ath

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THROUGH RESEARCH AND EXHIBITION
OF COINS, CURRENCY AND HISTORIC OBJECTS

June 16, 1967

Mr. Robert Vlack

Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

The American Numismatic Society asked me if I knew of anything which could be submitted for publication before September in their publication of MUSEUM NOTES. They are looking for American items. Would you let me know if you have something.

I presume you have your Machins back and that I will get my St.Patrick's shortly.

I will telephone you soon to rediscuss forgery techniques as I am now thinking that the Pine Tree, and perhaps others, are poor spark erosion jobs.

Sincerely,

EPN/atb

Robert A. Black

"Numismatist"

AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

TEL. NO. (617)
535-2828

LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hamp. 03865

June 30, 1967

Dear Eric,

I have sent along under separate cover all of your St. Patrick pieces and I want to thank you for the use of them, they were most helpful. I made impressions of them for my own identification just in case I run into similar specimens. You happen to have one duplicate (Breen 2^{13}-A^{8}) and I can use this if you care to part with it.

I have not used any numbering system on these yet as I want to wait until I can find a useful and logical sequence using as many known varieties as possible. To date I have recorded 44 different farthings and 8 Halfpence. I feel I have a long way to go before I start a sequence.

I was glad to hear (not from your end though) that the English Halfpence was not yours. I just purchased another group, which I turned over to Charlie so he can have some fun with them. Incidentally along with that line I picked up the 1769 Halfpenny, of which you sent me a photograph, which I think is in the ANS. The photographs are suppose to be all Machin Mills pieces. Is this 1769 a Machins product?

I called the ANS and talked to Leslie Elam regarding publishing something in the Museum Notes. I suggested my works on the VOCE POPULI series which I had done about 5 years ago but never published anywhere. He wants me to send this, and we shall see from there. John Ford was going to publish this but, what more can I say. He hasn't even found the manuscript I sent him, and after five years, I think I've waited long enough.

Again, thank you for the St. Patrick pieces. I hated sending them back as I constantly referred to them, but you have sent enough reminders, and I am happy that I have had them as long as I did.

Good luck on Tom M. I will look forward to reading this.

Very sincerely,

Bob

P.S. Any Virginia Plates yet?

July 5, 1967

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

Dear Bob:

It is my pleasure to send you the enclosed St. Patrick's farthing.

You indicated that I did not advise you as to the Gore matter, and my file shows that a carbon copy of my June 5 letter to Gore was sent to you. I wouldn't have left you in the dark.

I sincerely appreciate your thoughtfulness in arranging for me to find out whether the items were mine. Keep looking.

Kindest regards.

Yours very truly,

Eric P. Newman

EPN/cal

Enclosure

July 8, 1967

Dear Eric,

Thank you very much for the St. Patrick farthing. I hope some day to repay the favor.

I reread my letter and must apologize for confusing you as I did. You are right, I did receive all of the correspondence. What I meant was that in a way I was sorry they were not your coins as I would have liked to have seen you get them back. If that further confuses the issue, forget it.

[redacted]

Again thanks for St Pat.

Bob

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 2, 1968

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

Dear Bob:

In accordance with your request, I am enclosing herewith, for your examination and study, a 1784 George III halfpence. It is beyond any doubt the finest specimen known. The question, of course, is whether this is a piece of American origin. It has wedge shaped denticles around the rim and has the figure of Britannia very similar to the 1785 Connecticut pieces. It is so completely dissimilar to the George III bust that it may be intended to be somebody else.

There was a law passed in Rhode Island, in 1785, to stop the influx of imitation halfpence into Rhode Island from Massachusetts; therefore, something had to be made in Massachusetts which caused the law to be passed. I suspect that this is the coin. Apparently the coin was struck in Rehoboth. As you will note, you can almost drive a truck through the space between the second G and the I of GEORGIVS.

Study this coin a while and I would appreciate hearing what you think about it before you return it to me.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

ENN/stb

CERTIFIED MAIL

A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION FOR EDUCATION
THROUGH RESEARCH AND EXHIBITION
OF COINS, CURRENCY AND HISTORIC OBJECTS

(No. STATE OF VERMONT.

TREASURER'S OFFICE, Tinmouth,

THIS ORDER will be received into the Treasury for the Sum of

of either of the Collectors of the Hard Money Taxes, that have or shall be granted by the legislature of this State.

Witness, A. Heathcote Treasurer.

£. 30. 0. 0 specie. (No. 629.)

STATE of MARYLAND.

THIS certificate shall entitle John Hilly to receive from the State of Maryland the sum of Thirty Pounds specie, with interest of six per cent. per annum, according to the act to settle and adjust the accounts of the troops [illegible] in the service of the United States, and for other purposes therein mentioned.

Issued the Twenty eighth day of May 1781.

W. Wilkins commissioner.

LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hamp. 03865

January 13, 1968

Dear Eric,

Enclosed the return of the 1784 George III Halfpence, a most interesting specimen. I had a delightful time examining it and have come to no real conclusion. Your theory sounds plausible, but I think much has to be done before a real assumption, such as this comes from Rehoboth, can be drawn.

I find it hard to believe that only one specimen exists from that source, there surely must be countless others if a law had to be passed. Is it possible that the pieces now headed under Thomas Machin other than the 1778, 1787, and 1788 grouping really come from another source. I have felt this all along as the style is so completely different. Anyhow, as I have said, there is work to be done. I have made an impression from your coin so I can continue.

Who put the nomenclature on the envelope? If this was in the Charles French Sale, how did you come upon it? I was under the impression that one Mr. Anton got all of these.

I have enclosed a couple of Xerox copies of some notes that were sent to me for information. Inasmuch as you are the authority, I would appreciate some little ditty on each so I can pass the word along.

I have come up with another very interesting George III piece. The reverse is dated 1741, no question, as the coin is in very fine condition and the date is very clear. The obverse is in the style of the GEORGE III, and I doubt if it is American as it looks very English. Interesting date though.

I guess that is about it for now. Am still patiently working on the St. Patrick farthings, and what a problem they are. If you know of any source of these that I may examine, I would certainly appreciate it. I am going out of my mind trying to work with good and very good specimens with half the detail missing. Like using accountants for designing a conveyer system in a shoe company, very frustrating.

Keep in touch.

Very sincerely,

Bob

FORM #105

January 19, 1968

MEMORANDUM

TO Mr. Robert Vlack

FROM Eric P. Newman

Dear Bob:

There are other 1784 pieces the same as the one I showed you. I have seen at least one-half dozen.

You asked me who put the nomenclature on the envelope. I did. There were two lots in the French Sale and I got one of them. The other lot Anton got and I wonder whether he sold these to Roper or to August. Do you know?

The photocopies of the items you sent me are not listed in my bookbecause they are not circulating notes. The Maryland piece is payable to a specific party and it was apparently paid in view of the hole cancellation.

The Vermont piece was an authorization for payment if the legislature approved the payment.

Many of the states, after the Revolutionary War, issued similar certificates and these were bought and sold by brokers because they were in odd amounts.

I'll call you up one of these days and we will have a chat.

Cordially,

EPN/atb

October 28, 1968

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

Dear Bob:

With respect to my talk at ANS, it is nice that you indicated you would like to come but cannot. I am going to explain the origin of Bungtown and dish out a little new information; however, most of it is old hat to you. I do not plan to have it published as I want to publish it as part of a book.

I appreciate very much your report that you have a New Jersey 56-n struck over a 1772 imitation halfpence (your variety 3-E). These may not be Machins Mills, even though interlocked with letter and device punches. In addition, the coins gathered for the New Jersey striking were probably gathered out of circulation.

I am not going to talk about Machins Mills at all other than just to mention it and am not going to talk about any die varieties of any counterfeit halfpence; merely history relating to halfpence. I don't think anybody is going to speak to me again as it is going to be the most vulgar talk given in numismatics.

I have written you two letters today just to show you our relationship is only the best.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

October 28, 1968

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

Dear Bob:

It was nice of you to write me.

If I ever get snooty it will be because my nose has grown longer and no other reason. First, I have been overwhelmed with business work. Second, do you remember when you went through the disillusioning stage about many of your numismatic contacts? Well, that, to some extent, has happened to me in the past couple of years. I think many of the people in the numismatic field have lost their principles - if they ever had any - and we common type folk, as you state, are just going to have to be put up with.

I told Walter Breen to send you the material he is working on with respect to Massachusetts silver. I am also about to write Lester Merkin that Lot No. 100 in the sale of November 20 is a cast even though Walter has described it in detail as if it is genuine. From the picture you can see how bad it is.

Breen tells me he is now going to office with Charlie Wormser and that Lester Merkin is going to close up his store and move to an office. You figure it out.

Thanks, again, for writing.

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

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Robert A. Vlack
"NUMISMATIST"
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865
Tel. No. (603) 382-6030

AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

November 29, 1968

Dear Eric,

Received your lecture and was absolutely delighted to read all that was in it. It must have received quite a few comments, and I imagine you must have felt somewhat peculiar yourself. I know how I ~~bett~~ would feel if I came out with a speech such as yours. Anyhow, it was great, and after I have an opportunity of rereading it again, I shall forward it back to you.

On the basis of this, I decided to gather some goodies from my holdings of the counterfeits and forward them to you. I have had long suspicions on these and really feel that Nos. 1 thru 5 are definately American, 6 thru 8 as possibles, and 9 and 10 just odd with a possibility. I also enclosed another extremely unusual specimen and wondered if you ever came across such an item. This is the 1774 Counterfeit English Halfpence with an Irish Bust. This is the first I have ever seen of these. I can't imagine anyone making this kind of a boo-boo.

I am afraid I made a blunder myself, and it was in all innocence. I was at the monthly Coin Club meeting in Boston and mentioned to Dick August how I had received a call from you regarding the possibility of his having one of the coins stolen from the Bennington museum. He asked what the piece was and I told him. Apparently the piece was his, and he got all excited and very angry, and said he had checked (which I think is a crock) and that you had no right checking in this respect, that all he wanted to know was whether or not the coin was genuine, as he had his doubts. So, be prepared. I feel that he is in the wrong for feeling this way because if it was me, I would want to know if the piece was possibly stolen, but then again, he is not me. He is a very selfish young lad with a burning desire to have something everyone else wants. He has to compete to collect, and unfortunately uses me as one of his competitors. My favorites are the Machin Mills pieces, the Vermonts, and the Massachusetts coppers. These are also his. I'm just glad I have such a head start on him, that's all.

Well little ole buddy, have fun with these. I have my reason for feeling for these as I do. Probably the best is, of all the counterfeits I have purchased from England, I received none like these. They look very unlike the English counterfeits, and the weight is too low to fool anyone. This sort of ties in to your lecture. I would at least figure these under the doubtfuls. Your comments would be appreciated.

Very sincerely,

Bob

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

December 10, 1968

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

Dear Bob:

You were very nice to send me your mystery pile of imitations. I cannot be sure any of them are American. The fact that an Irish obverse is combined with an English reverse goes along with the fact that many George II obverses are combined with a date on the reverse in the reign of George III. They just used any die combinations which were convenient.

Don't worry about the problem with Richard August. He calms down as easily as he gets excited. He knew I was checking on the origin of the piece.

I don't plan to return your items until after the first of the year as there are too many Christmas packages in motion.

As to the copy of my talk which you have, please return it whenever you wish. August asked to read it but I have not made my mind up on that point for the present. If you have any comments on the text where you believe something is misstated or something could be clarified or amended, please feel free to clip them on to the text. In any event I knew you would enjoy reading it and am glad that you even want to reread it.

Best wishes to you and yours for the holidays.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/stb

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OF COINS, CURRENCY AND HISTORIC OBJECTS

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 21, 1969

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

Dear Bob:

I still have your English halfpence, of doubtful origin, and have not as yet had an opportunity to take pictures of a couple of them. I will try to do so shortly. I wish there was some way of determining a little more about them as it is very frustrating.

I presume you still have my manuscript on my talk that I gave in New York and would appreciate it if you could return it. I have had several requests for it and do not know whether to circulate it or not. William F. Clark has asked to see it. He is from Canton, Massachusetts. Have you ever heard of him? Your friend, Richard August, wanted to see it. I would appreciate your thoughts as to the advisability of lending it out any more as I don't want copiesmade of the material, which will be used for publication,prior to my writing it.

I hope you had a pleasant Holiday.

Kindest regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN/atb

A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION FOR EDUCATION
THROUGH RESEARCH AND EXHIBITION
OF COINS, CURRENCY AND HISTORIC OBJECTS

Robert A. Vlack
"NUMISMATIST"
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865
Tel. No. (603) 382-6030

AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

January 26, 1969

Dear Eric,

The manuscript will go out separately along with this letter, and you should have it shortly.

The two people you mentioned who requested to see the manuscript I know both well. Bill Clark who is interested in the Evasions is an opportunist and frankly I would not trust him with it as I feel the only reason he might want the works is so he could lecture on it for a price from various Coin Clubs. He has purchased a few duplicates from me from time to time.

Mr. August, whom you called my friend, and I will accept that term loosely, asked if I would loan the manuscript to him, but I lied and told him I already sent it back. I am sure that he is interested in it from an educational point of view, ~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~ and will probably not exploit the data, though he might make copies for his own record.

Incidentally, I have made no copies, or showed it to anyone else.

I might also mention that Mr. August has some interesting pieces, though he is mightily reluctant to show them to anyone. Perhaps you can persuade him for photos of anything suspicious.

I have that data from Walter Green on the Pine Tree Series now, and I have run off copies to send to Walter. I assume he will send a copy to you. I am going to try to get to that today.

Other than that, all else is quiet. I trust all is well with you.

Very sincerely,

Bob

P.S. What address do I use to write to you?

Robert A. Vlack
"NUMISMATIST"
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865
Tel. No. (603) 382-6030

AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

COLLECTOR'S CLUB OF BOSTON

"25TH ANNIVERSARY" DINNER

GUEST SPEAKER: ERIC P. NEWMAN

APRIL 11, 1970 (SATURDAY)

VALLE'S STEAK HOUSE
ROUTE 9
NEWTON, MASS.

DINNER @ 7:00 PM

Dear Eric,

We are making plans and want to include you on our printed program. You would honor me no end if you could confirm this, preferably before Jan 26. Expect about 150-200 to attend, especially with you as our speaker. I await your word.

Bob

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 14, 1970

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

Dear Bob:

I am brokenhearted not to be able to accept the invitation of the Collectors Club of Boston. I will be in the Galapagos Islands on April 11, 1970 with the San Diego Zoo party to visit the Charles Darwin Foundation and all the animals. If the date were changed until April 18, I might be able to make it as my trip home will be about April 15. I could make it April 25.

I certainly do not want you to change a convenient date because of me but I am giving you my schedule.

At least I will have something to talk about if it is after my return as I will be studying the origin of species and will be in a better position to judge whether numismatists are a freak of nature caused by God, or whether they are the uncontrollable result of natural selection.

Please let me hear from you as to your wishes.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN/atb

A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION FOR EDUCATION
THROUGH RESEARCH AND EXHIBITION
OF COINS, CURRENCY AND HISTORIC OBJECTS

Robert A. Vlack
"NUMISMATIST"
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865
Tel. No. (603) 382-6030

AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

March 9, 1970

Dear Eric,

Enclosed is the English counterfeit halfpenny struck over a 1797 Mail Coach token, Middlesex 366 in the Dalton & Hamer. It is a most unusual piece and I thought you might gain something from it. As with the rest of the pieces which you still have, you may return this at your convenience.

I was quite amused with all the goings on between yourself, the 1804 Dollar, and other compatriots.

As far as the scheduled talk you were going to do for us on April 11, I guess if you can't make it, that is the end of the ball game. We tried very hard to get an alternate night, but bookings are well tied up in advance, and we couldn't change it. April happens to be the month of our anniversary, and the club could not consider going out of the month. If, for any reason, something happens and you do not go, the offer is not only still open, but desired.

I happen to be talking with Leslie Elam of the ANS, and I was under the impression that he is under the impression you was going to be at the ANS on April 10th. I mentioned your plans and hope I haven't butted my nose where it doesn't belong.

If I don't hear from you before the trip, have yourself a delightful time, I wish I could be there to enjoy it with you.

Very sincerely,

Bob

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

March 13, 1970

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
Laperle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

Dear Bob:

The overstruck English counterfeit halfpence is most unusual and I will be taking its picture in due course. This stimulates me to act a little more promptly.

There is no change in my plans for the Galapagos trip and no harm is done at ANS by virtue of your mentioning it. No doubt I am expected to be at all council meetings but I can't make it always.

I am glad you are getting amusement out of all the 1804 Dollar matters. The one wise crack of mine they would not publish was: "Is it legal for an illegal eagle to become a legal eagle, Joseph Segel?"

It is always nice to hear from you and I am so sorry I could not make the talk you asked me to.

Kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
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AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

May 29, 1971

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington Street
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Dear Eric,

Are you alive, retired, too busy, or what? I just read some past correspondence regarding unfinished business and came across your letter dated December 10, 1968 thanking me for sending along all my pile of imitations for your examination. Since then I also sent along the 1775 over a Mail Coach token, and since then I have not heard from you. This is sort of disappointing to say the least. As a matter of fact I wouldn't have even known you were alive except that Lennie Finn told me you ordered the (No Resolution 1777 $4 Georgia Note) which incidentally is the only one I needed to complete my set of these. Apparently you got to him first.

I guess that as long as nothing is happening on these, I would like to request that you return them so perhaps I can do something on them. New varieties of the Machin Series, or whatever they are, are still turning up and perhaps some of those I sent, or even (!) can be tied in. If you wish to get them back you know I will be glad to send them, but this long a time lag is a bit too much and I am sure you will understand.

I also heard from Richard Picker that you was on vacation in Europe. I trust you had a very enjoyable time.

Very sincerely,

Bob

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

September 13, 1971

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

Dear Bob:

I am enclosing the only picture I have of a pressing of the harp left 1723 and 1724 Woods pieces. The owner now advises me that the pressing is made of 7/8ths lead and 1/8th tin. You indicated the last time we talked that you would try to see if there was an identification possible of the legends. The word "HIBERNIA" on each face seems identical in letter positioning. Would you check that out.

If I were making these pieces, I would make four electros, one of a 1724 regular reverse, one of the 1723 regular reverse, and cut out the center. I would then make electros of the 1722 harp left type and cut off the legend and edge. I would join these together and smooth off the joint in the field. Let's see what you can find.

Would you return this picture to me when you have completed using it but feel free to rephotograph it if you wish.

The coins I have of yours will be returned shortly.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

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6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

September 13, 1971

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LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

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Sincerely yours,

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ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 31, 1972

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

Dear Bob,

Many thanks for the photo and the die work you did on the Woods pressing. You have been of great help. I wish we could give you credit, personally, but await your permission. A revised opinion is enclosed and contains additional thoughts which, no doubt, you realized.

The left end of the base has been tooled slightly on the artificial dies. The end comes to an even point on the 1723 but on the 1724 it is flat on top. The serifs on the E of the genuine piece sweep up and down while on the artificial dies they are level. The 1722 coin might have closed in somewhat at E before the striking of the coin which was copied, with the die being strengthened by recutting during the original striking. Perhaps the artificial die was strengthened after preparation.

It was great to see you and hear from you.

Other open matters will be taken up shortly.

Kindest regards,

Sincerely,

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC
EDUCATION SOCIETY

EPN
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A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION FOR EDUCATION
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Robert A. Vlack
"NUMISMATIST"
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865
Tel. No. (603) 382-6030

AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

June 22, 1972

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, 5, Missouri

Dear Eric,

God, how time flies. I just came across your last letter to me and noticed the date was January 31. Much of it was in regard to the Anton phoney, and if you still require some sort of approval from me on this, you certainly can use me anyhow you wish. Your further probing was excellent and I agree to the fullest all you have said regarding this piece.

I also thought it time to bug you again for the Continental Currency note dated May 10, 1775, of $20.00. I am lacking so little of the entire series, and this is one of them, thus I am most eager to have the piece.

Nothing is new with me regarding the Machin Mills series, though I think I am going to redo the Machin Mills plates to bring them up to date. Picker is going to get me photographs of Craigs collection of these so I can assemble a nice set of plates. I finally purchased a photography outfit designed specifically for coins from London, and it is truly great.

Last but, certainly not least, what are the chances of this Education Society of yours to do the Wood's Coinage book? I have been mulling this over in my mind for quite a while now and finally decided to ask. I think the book will sell quite well as this coinage is collected in England, Ireland, and the US. It would be completely plated, with every known die variety listed. Your thoughts would be appreciated.

Guess that's it for now, sorry for taking so long to write. I promise to do better next time. I trust all else is well.

Very sincerely,

Bob

July 26, 1972

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

Dear Bob:

I am pleased to send you a $20 1775 Continental, #2732. This came out of my collection as I have signature combinations in this category. It's not choice but virtually all are torn in half and most have defects. I mended it so it looks fairly nice.

As to the Machins, I agree a full set of nice pictures would be great. After you take off what you need from the Craig collection and add them to what you have, please let me see what you have assembled and I may be able to improve some from my collection. Has Dick August ever cooperated in permitting any of his to be photographed?

You should not be concerned about asking this Society for any help. The Wood's coinage is die varieties only as I understand it, and should be made available to the public. Does it cover Rosas also? Is there any new text material? We are not interested in marketing it but would have to study what is proposed and what costs are involved. Outline it further if you care to. Did you try the British Numismatic Journal, Seaby or Spink? ANS isn't interested in die varieties only, as you know. (You resigned, I see).

I am getting my talk ready for New Orleans and was called in for the Educational Forum because they didn't have anybody. I was told I was to have given a program in Boston next year, but they needed me now. I compete with a movie on the program. How ridiculous. I think the movie will deeducate as it is a propaganda sales oriented film made by the General Services Administration to sell their CC dollars, and is entitled, "Silver in The West."

Hope you and yours are fine.

Cordially,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN:sw

4/22/73

EDISON BROTHERS STORES INC.

EXECUTIVE OFFICES: 400 WASHINGTON AVE. MAIL: P. O. BOX 14020, ST. LOUIS, MO. 63178

Dear Bob –

Across from Wyatt together I appreciated your [illegible] welcome as I thought me [illegible] [illegible] numbers

I'm enclosing 1 [illegible] and 3 half marqui[illegible] these are all I have they are listed [illegible] the enclosed schedule. [illegible] than after they have served your purpose.

I look forward to the Machins auction, do hope [illegible] in the latter changes things but then take your [illegible] also enclosed a 1775 [illegible] which has [illegible] changed [illegible] the reverse [illegible] attractive [illegible] look like [illegible] of the group [illegible] what do you [illegible]

so you have duplicate 1777 F-F (numbered 7-E on your reverse list) [illegible] have at M-dis D [illegible] the 1777 8-H

[illegible] my [illegible] retirement if [illegible] years has left my [illegible] correspond[illegible] since [illegible] United States

My best to you

Eric

Mr Robert Black

Returned 8/24/73

Collection of Eric P. Newman

1739 Marque Unc Brill H Mint
1739 Marque,Dull silver Edge dent xf D Mint
1740 " Unc.Brill E Mint
1742 " Die break at D of LUD unc BB Mint
1742 " Green Corrosion otherwis e unc. H Mint
1751 " Copper vf BB Mint
1755 " Copper vf A Mint
1755 " Dull Grey A Mint Copper showing thru .vf
1755 " Dark Grey A Mint xf

1740 Half Sou Marque G Mint Unc
1740 " " " AA Mint .Dark.Small planchet
1740 " " " B Mint

August 9, 1973

Mr. Robert Vlack
603 LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

Dear Bob:

I look forward to hearing you at the forum in Boston and will try to figure out a question to ask.

It will be very nice to see you again. You can bring me the pieces you have on loan, but the most important thing is you promised me pictures of the Machins. I certainly hope those will be ready as I want to study and work on them.

Sincerely yours,

ERIC P. NEWMAN

EPN:jah

Robert A. Vlack
"NUMISMATIST"
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865
Tel. No. (603) 382-6030

AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

October 5, 1973

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington Avenue
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Dear Eric,

[redacted]

I have enclosed a little goody for you to see since this is the type of thing both you and I get our kicks from. Apparently someone went through great pains to convert a 1 Shilling note into a 6 Shilling note. Since the Seal itself is so different, I don't wonder that this was detected.

I purchased this as such, and while I intended to keep it for myself, I thought you might like to own the piece if it has any significance to you at all. I don't come across these kinds of pieces very often therefore I think they must be quite scarce, being this type of Counterfeit. Anyhow, if it pleases you, then you own it.

I received several favorable comments regarding my talk, but, no new additions to the number of die varieties and all that. I was sorta hoping that some big collector would come forth and say, "I have a whole load of Sous Marques never before seen by anyone, would you care to work on them"? Oh, well, we all have our little pipe dreams.

Nothing else is new at the moment.

Very sincerely,

Bob

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

October 9, 1973

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

Dear Bob:

Thank you very much for your nice letter.

I am looking forward to the plates which you are preparing very, very much. I need them for reference.

As to your talk, you were going to send me the data on the New Orleans reference to French pieces circulating there. How about it?

Don't be disappointed that people didn't produce mounds of items for you to study. You have to feel satisfied when you find something or somebody who has material.

The altered Colonial piece which you were nice to send me, I believe you should keep, as I already have several altered items of this nature. I appreciate your thoughtfulness, but I have the feeling that you might wish to keep it.

I am looking forward to hearing from you on the foregoing matters.

Kindest regards,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION FOR EDUCATION
THROUGH RESEARCH AND EXHIBITION
OF COINS, CURRENCY AND HISTORIC OBJECTS

January 24, 1974

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
Laperle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

Dear Bob:

It was a pleasant surprise to receive the plates of imitation halfpence which you prepared. It will now stimulate me to go to work on my long neglected written material which I have been hoping to write up on the subject matter. There is one question I would like to ask, namely, what is the major difference between Obverse 21-I and 21-II? It also occurred to me that reverse entitled 88CT is Miller Reverse D, but what is Reverse 87CT?

I certainly am delighted to have this new reference and fully realize how much effort you put into it. Thank you for your kindness in this regard.

Cordially,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

August 12, 1974

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
603 LaPerle Avenue
Plaintow, New Hampshire 03865

Dear Bob:

How nice of you to send me such data on the colonial revision. I feel so much better about accuracy after people like you have checked matters in your own way. Many of your corrections and additions are new. Some I naturally had already learned of.

The Continental Congress membership and its relationship to signers is going to be expanded, but you have raised some real queries. I like your idea and will expand that section of the book to include more. I hate to guess, but I am forced to do it in some situations. I will cover my guesses with a comment accordingly.

I got another idea from your data - namely explaining where the Congress was when the resolutions were passed as the printer followed the Congress. There is a plaque in York, Pennsylvania where Hall & Sellers was located.

You really gave me some work to do.

Thanks so much,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

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Robert A. Vlack
"NUMISMATIST"
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865
Tel. No. (603) 382-6030

AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

January 10, 1975

Mr. Eric P. Newman
400 Washington Ave.
P.O. Box 14020
St. Louis, Mo. 63178

Dear Eric,

Not much new at the moment. I did manage to locate a 1784 American made English Counterfeit, somewhat better in grade than the one I photographed for the plates. Needless to say I did not find it in a junk box and had to pay an arm and a leg for the piece because of the plates..

The purpose of this sort of short ditti is to confirm the date at which you was gracious enough to accept being our guest speaker for our 30th anniversary. Everyone is very excited about your coming and of course I look like the hero for knowing someone as outstanding as yourself. Just for the record, Patriots day is the 19th of April but when they will celebrate it I am not sure, probable the Monday before or after, Massachusetts is all screwed up regarding holidays. Be that as it may, the date for your talk is:

APRIL 12TH 1975

SATURDAY NIGHT

I trust all else is well with you, and I shall look forward to hearing from you with a sort of confirmation, okay?

Very sincerely,

Bob

P.S. Sorry for the silly dating but I don't want you to miss it.

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

January 24, 1975

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865

Dear Bob:

The date of April 12, 1975 is what you asked for and that is what you get. Would you let me know if there any particular topics that would be of interest to the group.

I wish you would find out for me when the Patriots Day holiday is as I wanted to work in Boston the Monday following the meeting, if possible. I can then plan a meeting in New York for the morning and afternoon of April 12, 1975.

If you want to make me happy before I come, please send me a decent print of your Machins Mills plates. I have a bad pair. I am sure your eyes are opened in connection with the Pine Tree sale.

My very kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION FOR EDUCATION
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ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

March 4, 1975

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
603 LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, NH 03865

Dear Bob:

You expressed an interest several days ago in North Carolina 1776. I can arrange an exchange so that for $250.00 which you will pay you will receive three of the issue and I will receive some items in exchange. I am sending pictures of the items you will receive. There is a duplicate which will also be thrown in if you want to go to $300.00. This picture is also enclosed.

I presume people are crazy about 1776 dates at the present time. Let me know your wishes.

Kindest regards,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

Encls.

A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION FOR EDUCATION
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ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

March 26, 1975

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
603 LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, N.H. 03865

Dear Bob:

Thank you so much for the pleasant evening at your home. It was a dinner which had a steak so big that all your family could have shared it. I enjoyed seeing your wife and those of your flock who passed by.

I slept in Lawrence and ate breakfast at the Pewter Pot as you advised. I looked over the mills at Lawrence and it was raining and dismal so I dreamed I was standing there 100 years ago when all that was so efficient.

I will probably arrive in late afternoon on Saturday, April 12, 1975, from New York, as there is a board meeting and luncheon at A.N.S.

Will you answer two inquiries for me? What is the denomination of your 2/18/1793 Albany note? What is the name and author of the book on the French Regime in America which I saw in your library?

Thank you again for your hospitality.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION FOR EDUCATION
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OF COINS, CURRENCY AND HISTORIC OBJECTS

Black

30th Anniversary

COLLECTOR'S CLUB OF BOSTON

1945 - 1975

COINS MEDALS

TOKENS CURRENCY

SATURDAY, APRIL 12, 1975

VALLE'S STEAK HOUSE

Route 9

Newton, Massachusetts

Michael L. Sullivan

During the early part of 1945, a group of stamp and coin collectors met at the Parker House for the purpose of forming a new club. Many members of the other stamp groups were dissatisfied because of the long business meetings, and selling and buying were not allowed without the payment of a commission.

After a great deal of discussion, it was decided to form a club where most of the time could be given to buying, trading, auctions and fine programs. Originally most of the members were stamp collectors and most of the programs pertained to philately. The charter members were:

Carl F. Barron	William Launder	Vahe Nazar
Chester Durning	Alexander MacDonald	G. D. Shere
Herbert French	Albert Maged	Saul Terr
Maurice M. Gould	Donald Mull	

The Club grew steadily and many important functions were held, including an exhibition at the Copley Plaza Hotel of the philatelic collection of Cardinal Spellman.

As is so common with hobby organizations, after riding the crest of a wave for a few years, the membership and attendance dropped and it looked as though the Club might have to go out of existence. At this point, a group of coin collectors came into the Club as a body, and from this time on, the Club again started its upward climb. Due to the efforts of Andrew Scott and Grace Lincoln, the membership increased and today numbers over 150 paid members. In memory of Andy and Grace the Club has established the Andrew Scott Award for the best exhibit of the year at the Club, and annually presents the Grace Lincoln Memorial Award at the N.E.N.A. Conference for the best Lincoln exhibit.

Over the years many famous numismatists have given lectures, including Walter Breen, Kenneth Bressett, James Ford Clapp, Jr., Maurice Gould, Art Lovi, Chuck O'Donnell, John J. Pittman, Margo Russell, Hans Schulman, and Adna Wilde.

The Collectors Club has also been one of the sponsors of the New England Numismatic Association Conferences at Boston in 1964, 1969, and this year, 1975. Also, the Club was a co-sponsor of the highly successful American Numismatic Association Convention at Boston in 1973. Many Club members were instrumental in helping this convention break many records, including attendance and profits.

Congratulations and many thanks to all who have helped make this Club a significant force in New England numismatics, and to all who have helped the Collectors Club of Boston reach its 30th Anniversary!

Program

Greetings ..... Michael L. O'Sullivan
President

Introduction ..... Robert A. Vlack
Author

Guest Speaker ..... Eric P. Newman
Celebrated Author of Numismatic Literature

Presentations ..... Eliott L. Goldberg
Director and Chairman of the Banquet Committee

Prize Drawing ..... John D. Mullen
Director and Member of the Banquet Committee

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Vice President ..... George H. Kwatcher
Treasurer ..... John L. Powers
Secretary ..... Thomas P. Rockwell
Sergeant-at-Arms ..... Thomas Morrissey

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Richard A. Alexander

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Shirley Goldberg
Mary Mullen
John D. Mullen
Leonard H. Finn
Joan R. Trevas
Jeffrey A. Trevas

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

May 22, 1975

Mr. Bob Vlack
603 LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, N. H. 03865

Dear Bob:

Your inquiry with respect to the Hartford and New Haven Turnpike Gate scrip is at hand. I believe the most essential matter to look into is when this particular Turnpike was organized as I am sure that it received a franchise from the Connecticut legislature.

From the use of mills instead of fractions of one cent it would appear to be reasonably soon after the adoption of federal coinage, and the publication of Reckoners in 1794, that Reckoner used mills.

If it belongs to you I will gladly look up the Connecticut statutes for you, but that will take a lot of extra time. I should think someone should look this up as it is a very interesting piece.

Cordially,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

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ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

April 16, 1976

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
603 LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, NH 03865

Dear Bob:

It was great seeing you in New York. You added so much to the meeting. You will get the cards to put on computer as soon as I can get them.

After much looking I found my counterfeit 1741 George III ½d with the same dies as yours. It must have been made in the George III era from an old reverse die. Your piece is enclosed. Thank you for letting me know.

Have you a picture of the 1776 ½d you spoke to me about? I would like to see what it is like.

My best to you.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

Encl.

A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION FOR EDUCATION
THROUGH RESEARCH AND EXHIBITION
OF COINS, CURRENCY AND HISTORIC OBJECTS

Robert A. Vlack
"NUMISMATIST"
LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865
Tel. No. (603) 382-6030

AMERICAN COLONIALS, STATE COINAGE, EARLY WASHINGTON, CANADIAN TOKENS, EARLY ENGLISH COPPER

Dear Eric,

Enclosed the 1741 George III Halfpenny. Any comments would be appreciated. Return at your convenience.

Bob

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

September 2, 1976

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
603 LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, NH 03865

Dear Bob:

It was too hectic for me to get a chance to talk to you, but New York was a pleasant experience for me.

I am returning the 1699 English halfpence because it is type 3. What I need is a 1699 type 2 and wonder if you could check to see if you have one.

Kindest regards,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:jah

Encl.

A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION FOR EDUCATION
THROUGH RESEARCH AND EXHIBITION
OF COINS, CURRENCY AND HISTORIC OBJECTS

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis 5, Missouri

October 16, 1978

REGISTERED MAIL #234 6006 - $1,000 - 4.90
2 oz. .25
$5.15

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
603 LaPerle Avenue
Plastow, NH 03865

Dear Bob:

I very much appreciate your cooperation on the 1723 Woods silver farthing matter. I am enclosing a copy of the opinion for ANACS.

This is a very deady group of forgeries I have to review and I expect to write up some of the matter without disclosing too much about the mistakes of the forger.

I wish I could locate the original Woods in silver from which the forgery is copied.

Maybe the article will do so.

Your coin is enclosed.

It is always a pleasure to talk to you and to correspond. Thanks again.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

Encl.

A NON-PROFIT CORPORATION FOR EDUCATION
THROUGH RESEARCH AND EXHIBITION
OF COINS, CURRENCY AND HISTORIC OBJECTS

State of New Hampshire

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

CONCORD

February 28, 1980

Dear Eric,

I am still alive and well.

Enclosed are a couple of items I thought might be of some interest to you. The Massachusetts note is signed by Andrew Oliver and is not mentioed in your book as having signed this issue. He did sign the August 1, 1740 issue though.

The other is a copy of the actual use of the Hartford & New Haven Turnpike Toll account and unfortunately it is not dated which should have been interesting.

I am big into Hard Times tokens at the moment, do you have any of the scarcer ones for trade? I can even be pursuaded to part with the Massachusetts note if you need this.

I hope to hear from you one of these days, we use to have some great communication many years ago.

Hope this is of interest to you.

Very sincerely,

Bob

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

March 5, 1980

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
603 LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, NH 03865

Dear Bob:

It is always a pleasure to hear from you and I am glad that you are alive and well, though it is hard to be well without being alive. I certainly wish we were closer together so that we could see each other more often. So many interesting things have happened to me, as I presume they have happened to you. I appreciate your sending me a photocopy of the 15 shilling 1744 Massachusetts note and I have added the new signature to my revision information. You indicated that you could be persuaded to part with the Massachusetts note and, although I am not enamored with notes where the pieces are missing, I would like to know what we can do about it if you are not keeping it for your collection. I do not have any Hard Times Tokens in duplicate, but do have other items which might appeal to you unless you want to put a reasonable cash price upon your note.

The Turnpike Account has interesting calculations. The toll keeper seems to take half of the total proceeds, but his calculation for the first two columns is half of the grand totals, and on the next columns he cuts the rate in half. It looks as though you have several pages from this Turnpike Account and if you have one page for me that would be very nice so that it could go with my notes. After I hear from you I will pick up the phone and call you so that we each can keep the other up to date on what is going on.

My kindest personal regards.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

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ROBERT A. VLACK
"NUMISMATIST"
6 LaPerle Avenue
Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865
Tel. (603) 382-6030

April 18, 1980

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63109

Dear Eric,

Seems like I just received your letter and noticed that was over a month ago already. Where does the time fly to? I've been to five cities away from home during the past five weeks and as per usual, everything has piled up.

Regarding the 1744 Massachusetts note, I am not attempting to sell it since it is part of my collection, I am just placing my priorities in place and suggested a trade instead of a sale. I am up to ears in Hard Times tokens, a series which I fell in love with, and would trade this for some of the pieces I need, perhaps even two of the scarcer pieces. What other items did you have in mind for a trade? I really would like the Hard Times tokens though and would even settle for a Low 1. Anyhow, that's something to think about and we can discuss that later.

On the Turnpike account copy I sent you, there was only the one sheet that I know of and it isn't mine, it belongs to Lennie Finn. He sent me a copy and I made a copy of the copy to send to you. Perhaps word to him might provide further infomation for you.

[redacted]

I'll be home any time for the rest of this month but will be away from the 30th of April till the end of May 4th. Just in case you wish to call.

Warmest regards,

Bob

July 20, 1981 - Mailed 7/23/81

#234885 - Registered 400
Postage 49

REGISTERED

Mr. Robert Vlack
18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, Conn. 06804

Dear Bob:

[redacted]

At Dick Picker's instructions I am enclosing the Oak Tree Shilling which he borrowed from you and which he wrote up in his 1976 study on Massachusetts silver.

I am sending you letters I have written, pictures, etc. so you can study all this for yourself. I will appreciate any comments which you have as this was a very difficult and curious matter.

I am sorry to diagnose this coin as a forgery, but I was asked about the clearer pieces first and these were easier to draw conclusions from than yours. Unfortunately, yours is from the same dies.

Dick would like you to write him that you have the coin again so that he can clear his records.

My kindest personal regards,

Eric P. Newman

EPN:kr

Enclosures

Vlack

ST. PATRICK HALFPENCE (5 pieces)

Sm. letters on rev. Large let. on obv. v.f.plus
Sm. letters on rev. FLORE AT divided v.f.
Large letters both sides. Dent in field behind St.Pat.and on edge. f.
Fine obv. poor rev. 1(1) - C(2)
Sm. letters on obv. and rev. Dent on left side of crown and on right of St.Pat. f.

ST.PATRICK FARTHING IN SILVER (2 pieces)

Crushed milling under cloak. Unc.

4(1) - A(3) . Fine

ST.PATRICK FARTHING (21 pieces)

2(4)-A(4) V.G.
2(13) - A(8) V.G.
6(2) - N V.G.
17(1) - O Big brass splash. Fine
7(1) - F(1) Fine. 6 dots after REX and after PLEBS
2(12) - B(6) Fine
2(21) - E(3) Fine
10(6) - B(10) Fine, dark
2(15) - E(7) Fine
10(4) - A(12) V.G.
10(3) - A(11) V.G.
Letters of FLOREAT get larger at they progress. V.G.
12(2) - H(3) All E's are defective. Fine
Stars before and after PLEBS. 4 stars after REX

Edge dentils under king are flattened by excess metal. Fine
Corrosion spot left of Crown. V.G.
Heavy die break at AT. V.G.
O in FLOREAT and P of PLEBS not sharp. f.
Dent on David's seat. V.G.
Flat edge opposite QU V.F.
Dent at 5 o'clock on edge.

Bob Vlack 8/3/82

Dear Bob

I made an error in my July 2, 1982 letter to you.

I had asked for a Penna 1777 all black note of the 40 sh denomination. You sent me a £4. Do you have a 40 sh? I am returning the £4 and therefore have a $50 credit. Sorry I didn't catch the error.

Send more items

Eric

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ROBERT A. VLACK
"NUMISMATIST"
~~6 LaPerle Avenue~~
~~Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865~~
~~Tel. (603) 382-6036~~
18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, Ct. 06804

July 6, 1982

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63105

Dear Eric,

Received both of your letters today and want to get this off to you as quickly as possible, therefore have enclosed the following:

Maryland - July 14, 1756 - 20 Shillings	$1,500
" - October 17, 1780 - Set of 4 fractionals	6,000
Pennsylvania - April 10, 1777 - Black - 40 Shillings	40
North Carolina - December 1768 - 1768 on 6th Line - 2/6	150
" " - " " - 1768 on 7th Line - 2/6	200
" " - August 8, 1778 - $40	110
" " - " " " - $100	165

The three North Carolina April 2, 1776 notes I am missing are $1/16 Nautilus - $1/8 Monogram JM - $1/2 Monogram border of triangles.

It was good talking to you on the telephone the other night, sorry you had so much trouble getting the number. I am keeping a low profile here in Connecticut since the security on this house leaves much to be desired.

You will note I sent both varieties of the N.C. 1768 2/6 notes, and while you specified fine or better, I decided to send all you requested and let you decide for yourself.

New York and 1776 South Carolina's will be forthcoming, probably in the next group. Will look forward to our getting togeather in Boston. Thursday may be the last day I will attend, possibly Friday depending on how much I can take.

Warmest regards,

Bob

P.S. You certainly trust the U.S. Mail Service huh?

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

August 18, 1982

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, CT 06804

Dear Bob:

I hope I see you in Boston, but if you have left by that time I wanted to ask you why you won't quote me on the 1/16th dollar North Carolina Vase of Flowers. Your set is incomplete and the chances of completing it are very slim unless you are very lucky.

I am planning to see you in Boston and that is why this letter is so short.

Cordially,

Eric P. Newman

jah

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

July 12, 1982

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, CT 06804

Dear Bob:

I am so pleased to hear from you, now that you are a full time professional numismatist and no longer a part time politician, collector and worker.

[redacted]

You said I had not been much in the spotlight and that is exactly what my desire has been. I continue to collect, to write and to help others when I can. You can offer things to me anytime.

My numismatic museum in St. Louis is open over a year and you would enjoy it. I go to it as many noons as I can because I still work in business. My library is there also. The public seems to enjoy seeing the exhibits.

The 1782 two note Georgia sheet is probably not money, but a negotiable credit for bidding at auction. Perhaps I should not list it. The signatures in my opinion are false on the few I have seen which are signed. Thank you for advising me.

I own the copyright on Early Paper Money of America now and hope to revise it further. You always have additions, so please keep me up to date on things you discover.

I collect Heath counterfeit detectors (all editions), coin counters, coin changers, coin scales, coin and currency pictures and cartons, and numismatic literature - this being somewhat new.

[redacted]

My very best wishes and thanks for thinking of me.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

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~~8 LaPerle Avenue~~
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~~Tel. (603) 382-6036~~
18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, Conn. 06804
[redacted]

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63105

Dear Eric,

It has been so long since we have communicated I wonder if you still remember who I am. Please note the new address and telephone number which is unlisted.

Enclosed is a sheet which I thought might be of interest in your seeing. I am sure you will have some comments on it. I purchased this some time ago, there was actually two of these, only, one was unsigned and was purchased by John Ford. I bought this signed one and in all probability, the signatures are forged, but, I will leave that up to you to decide. I also sent a copy of this to Joseph Lasser since he is very involved with Colonial Signatures.

I trust all is going well with you. I must admit you haven't been much in the spotlight as of late with the exception of a numismatic donation I read about somewhere, or, something like that.

I am now living in Connecticut, enjoy the new location very much, and enjoying life in general. Anyhow, I shall look forward to hearing from you.

Warmest regards,

Bob

No.

STATE OF GEORGIA.

£ No.

THIS Certificate ſhall entitle the Bearer hereof to the Sum of

Current Money of this State, and ſhall be received as Specie at the Sales of the Confiſcated Eſtates, agreeable to a Reſolve of *Aſſembly*, made the day of January, 1782.

Le Baron Reuben Sec'ry Lyman Hall

£

No.

STATE OF GEORGIA.

£ No.

THIS Certificate ſhall entitle the Bearer hereof to the Sum of

Current Money of this State, and ſhall be received as Specie at the Sales of the confiſcated Eſtates, agreeable to a Reſolve of *Aſſembly*, made the day of January, 1782.

Le Baron Reuben Sec'ry Lyman Hall

£

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"NUMISMATIST"

~~8 LaPerle Avenue~~
~~Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865~~
~~Tel. (603) 382-6030~~

18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, Conn. 06804

July 19, 1982

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric,

Thank you for your letter, it is always a pleasure to hear from you and to know all is well with you.

Enclosed a Xerox copy of a new item. It is a Rhode Island 5 Shilling, July 5, 1715 redated to 1726. This issue is known but the 5 Shilling was not listed. Also note the George Goulding as a signer of this issue, also not mentioned for the 1726 Issue, but mentioned for later issues.

Incidentally, I am still a State Representative for New Hampshire and still have a legal address in New Hampshire. My term expires this year and needless to say, three terms is enough. I will concentrate on what I love most, numismatics.

I am beginning to break up my Colonial Currency collection, are there items of use to you? I know when you last saw the collection there were many items you desired, however, what they were I do not know. I have much of the later material and at this point can only suggest listing items you are looking for and I can answer yes or no.

Like yourself, my interests have wandered a bit from the Colonial scene. Since I branched out to the Hard Times tokens, have gone as far as I can, have now branched out even further to the obsolete currency of the same period which I find extremely interesting. Especiaaly so since no one has ever defined this field before, that I know of. I have about 850 different notes now and there seems to be an endless number of new discoveries every time I go to a new show. No one is an expert in this field and most dealers, even the so-called experts, know very little about them. Lotsa fun.

I will forward new items as they come to mind. Nice getting togeather with you again.

Warmest regards,

Bob

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

July 22, 1982

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, CT 06804

Dear Bob:

I believe you had previously furnished me with the information on the Rhode Island note as my interlineated text indicates substantial changes to that issue.

I am enclosing a list of some items I might be interested in in Colonial paper, some of which are to improve those I have. It is very difficult for me to guess what you might have. I wish you could photocopy or list by date and denomination what you have.

I am glad you are interested in obsolete currency. This has been one of my lifetime enjoyments.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

Encl.

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~~6 LaPerle Avenue~~
~~Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865~~
~~Tel. (603) 382-6030~~
18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, Conn. 06804

July 27, 1982

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric,

Enclosed find a small group of notes for your consideration. I have several more from your listing, but decided to take it slow and easy and let things take it's natural course. Enclosed the following:

New York - September 2, 1775 - $\frac{1}{2}$	$55.00
North Carolina - July 14, 1760 - 10/0	190.00
North Carolina - August 8, 1778 - $5 - INDEPENDENCE - This is the only specimen I know of.	400.00
North Carolina - August 8, 1778/1780 Reverse - LIBERTY and PEACE etc. - $50 - The only specimen I have seen or heard of	500.00
Pennsylvania - April 10, 1777 - 4 Pounds - Black - An exceptional note though supposedly common.	50.00
Total	$1,195.00

Regarding your list, I have several notes of New York prior to 1771 more on that later. My 5 Shilling 1771 is only a VG and have never been able to improve it though I have seen many rags.

I have the entire set of October 17, 1780 Maryland notes (4). I must offer them to Julian Liedman first as promised.

I have the $1/16 April 2, 1776 Flower Vase but am not sure I want to break up the entire set, I am lacking but 3 notes

I have several of the lower denominations of the South Carolina 1776 series, more on that later.

I have many of the New Jersey's of the early vintage, more on that later.

Last but not least, I do have several counterfeits, more on that later. I have a few large size notes from the New England area.

Going to the balance of your list, I have nothing else.

Since I let a few people know that I decided to break up my Colonial note collection, I have been swamped with letters for many pieces, especially the Maryland Oct. 17, 1780 group. Again, I am not trying to dispose of it all at once but would rather sell it bits at a time.

Hope these notes please you.

Warmest regards,

Bob

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ROBERT A. VLACK
"NUMISMATIST"
~~9 LaPerle Avenue~~
~~Penistow, New Hampshire 03801~~
~~Tel. (603) 382-6030~~

18 Wist Hill Drive
Brookfield, Conn. 06804

July 28, 1982

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63105

Dear Eric,

I forgot to send along this listing of a group of Colonial notes that belong to a customer of mine. The prices listed are those he wanted, I am asking 5% more as my fee for handling his material. There might be an item or two that might be of interest.

Another point which I forgot to mention in my last letter was you had asked me to make up a list of the notes I have for sale. That is too much for me to do as I have over 1300 different notes and I just am not up to listing them all, I hope you can appreciate that. This is why I asked what fill-ins you desired and I could perhaps be of some help. As previously mentioned, I have much of the later material, from about 1770 on. I know this is not too swift, but, it is the best I can do for the moment.

I wonder which letter will get to you first. Hope to hear from you.

Warmest regards,

Bob

NO.CAROLINA	Dec. 1771	30/0	2866	VF	$165
" "	Apr. 2, 1776-Hare	$¼	6739	F	125
" "	" " " -Bird	"	12373	F	125
" "	" " " -Deer	$2	6080	F	135
" "	" " " -Bee Hive	$3	8078	VF	300
" "	" " " -Goat	$6	8196	EF	350
" "	" " " -Flag	$7½	1715	F	300
" "	" " " -Leopard	$8	417	F-VF	300
" "	" " " -Peacock	$10	5072	F	200
" "	" " " -Boar	$15	1315	F	250
" "	" " " -Snake	$20	4856	VF	400
" "	" " " - "	"	--	G	125
" "	Aug. 8, 1778-Virtuous	$2	755	F	65
" "	" " " -Indepen.	$10	39080	F	50
" "	" " " -American	$20	11506	VF	65
" "	May 15, 1779	$10	7626	VG-F	50
" "	May 10, 1780	$25	4103	VF	80
" "	Dec. 29, 1785	1/0	723	VG	450
PENNSYLVANIA	Mar. 20, 1771	20/0	4222	VF-EF	150
"	Apr. 3, 1772-Morton	1/6	30992	VG	110
"	" " " - "	2/6	33173	VG	100
"	Mar. 25, 1775	4/0	2394	VF	55
"	" " "	6/0	288	VF	55
"	" " "	14/0	84	AU	85
"	" " "	16/0	2177	EF	85
"	Apr. 10, 1775-Prison	50/0	2888	Unc	165
"	Apr. 10, 1777	6/0	15394	VF	50
"	June 1, 1780	$5	1701	VG	300
"	Aug. 6, 1789	1¢	G	Unc	750
SO. CAROLINA	Dec. 23, 1776	$6	1413	Unc	400
" "	" " "	$8	--	VF	300
" "	Dec. 23, 1777-Error	$4	1739	VF	500
" "	July 6, 1789	1/3	--	AU	500
" "	" " "	2/0	--	EF	600
VIRGINIA	July 17, 1775-Ashby	2P	4889	VG-F	325
"	" " " - "	5P	252	VF	500
"	" " " -James R.	12P	11484	VF	500
"	Oct. 16, 1780	$200	19197	VF	260
CONT.CURR.	May 10, 1775	$20	2484	VG-F	500
" "	Feb. 17, 1776-Jacobs	$2/3C	550323	F	140
" "	Nov. 2, 1776-Levy	$4	39486	F	140
" "	Apr. 11, 1778-Yorktown	$5	10654	VG	225
" "	" " " - "	$5	22635	F-VF	325
" "	" " " - "	$6	53327	F-VF	350
" "	" " " - "	$20	38089	VF	400
" "	Jan. 21, 1779-Fr. Loan	$60	179	Unc	250

August 2, 1982

Mr Robert Vlack
18 Mist Hill Dr
Brookfield, Ct 06804

Dear Bob.

It was nice to receive a prompt and interesting reply on the paper money. I am glad to buy the pieces I need namely:

N.C	August 8, 1778	#5 Independence	$400
Penn	Apr 10, 1777	£4 Black	50
	Check enclosed		$450

All of the others I already have in at least as nice condition. As you see I am trying to improve my condition whenever possible. The others are returned herewith.

You can now send me some in the next categories or at least list them. I respect your offering the Oct 17, 1780 Maryland notes to Julian Hedman but don't break the set and don't forget me if he doesnt want them.

As to North Carolina I could use 8/8/78 #40 and #100 in fine or better and I could use 2sh/6d of the 1768 issue. As to the April 2, 1776 Flower Vase I think you ought to offer it to me because you do not have a complete set now and therefore cannot offer it complete to anyone. What are you missing? I could improve others in my set and therefore buy some more.

As to South Carolina 1776 you are going to let me hear from you later as well as counterfeits, large notes, etc.

I have still not decided whether I am going to the ANA Convention in Boston but if I do so it will be for April 19 April 20 and April 21 only.

The list of items for sale by your customer does not have anything which improves my group. Thank you for sending it.

I will send you further needs as soon as you are ready. Are you ever going to sell your Massachusetts silver. I need one now for a trade (oak tree 12d), but also know you have other choice ones I probably do not have.

What is your telephone number?

My kindest regards,

Gin

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ROBERT A. VLACK
"NUMISMATIST"
~~18 LaPerle Avenue~~
~~Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865~~
~~Tel. (603) 382-6030~~
18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, Conn. 06804

September 3, 1982

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis Mo. 63105

Dear Eric,

Just went over the list and am requesting you send the following notes:

$1 and $10 Towanda Bank if from New York. If Pennsylvania, then I don't need them.
$5 BANK OF RIVER RAISIN, Mich. - If train in center & Ceres, Vulcan, and Mercury on left, I have. If Indian Chief in center, eagle on right and portrait of Penn on left, then I want.
$20 NAHANT BANK, Mass.
$500 GLOBE BANK, N.Y. - How much is missing? I already have but mine is only VG condition but all there.
$1, $2, $3, WATERVLIET BANK, N.Y. I have all three but need improvements.
$5 BANK OF CAIRO, Ill. (Angels)
$3 " " " , "
$2 " " " , "
$20 " " " , "
$5 " " " , " (River Scene)
$5 " " " , " (River Scene, STATE OF ILLINOIS on top
$1 " " " , " (Ship)
$2 UNION BANK, Nashville
$10 BANK OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI

All the others I have in very nice condition. I have most of the BANK OF CAIRO notes, I am looking for improvements.

Don't worry about the North Carolina 1776 Vase of Flowers note, I am sure it will come to you. As far as sending any more notes, I would like to keep it simple for the moment and take care of one thing at a time. You have several notes now and I do not know the status of those. When that is settled, then I will send more, otherwise it could get very messy.

Send the following notes above, with prices, I will select what I want, send back remainders, if there are any, and conclude this first transaction. Don't forget, the period I am after is 1831 to 1845 inclusive.

Warmest regards,

Bob

9/10/82

Bob Vlack –

Dear Bob –

First I wanted to ask you if the person who repaired the 1756 Maryland can easily dissolve the repair fluid and put it back together properly or is it permanently askew. I would like to have it and that's why I ask.

I went through the duplicates you are interested in and have the following comments

#500 Globe Bank NY #52 Left end missing Maybe you have the left end on yours.

#20 Nahant Bank #583 Lynn Mass, Congreve Patent back 1.1.32 vg

Bank of Cairo at Kaskaskia
#3 #298 Top corner ff. g.
#5 #5609 Cupids. vf
#5 #891 River scene vf
#5 #4888 River Scene. STATE OF ILL vf
#2 #5919 Indian at left, f
#20 #78 River Scene. Unlisted in Wismer. Unlisted in Marchoff. Rare.
#2 Union Bank Tenn #3292 Not quite sure of date (not sent)
#20 #9 A Bank of the State of Missouri. Ink + punch cancelled very rare. In the NASCA sale of 4/27/81 lot 419 it brought #475.00 I listed a $10 but that was my error.

#1 #7808 Waterbury lower left corner ff. vg
#2 #6473 " fine
#3 #2348 " abt good

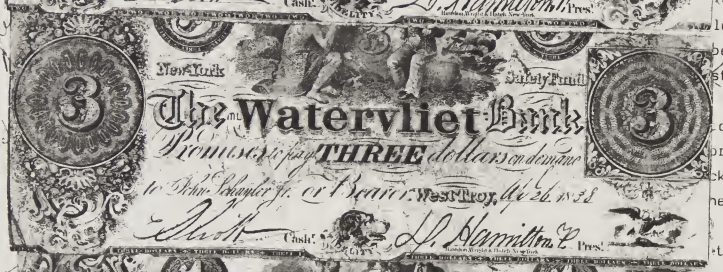
Perhaps you can suggest a fair offset for those you need assuming I am buying all that I now have on hand. I will send you a check as soon as I hear from you either accepting or not accepting the offset offer.

I am satisfied you will be reasonable on you offset because I have not asked for a reduction on the items I have on hand.

My best,

Eric

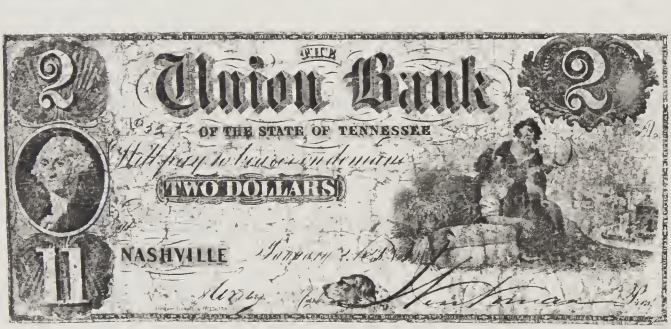
PROXY STATEMENT



In the event a nominee is unable or unwilling to stand for election

TWO
STATE OF ILLINOIS
THE BANK OF CAIRO
TWO DOLLARS.
KASKASKIA
TWO
2

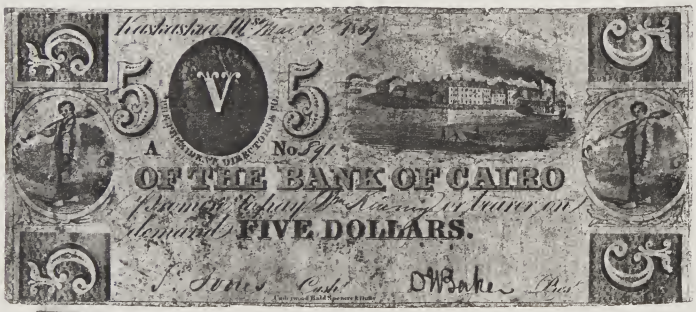
TWENTY
Kaskaskia, Ill.
THE PRESIDENT, DIRECTORS & CO.
OF THE BANK OF CAIRO
20
20
TWENTY Dollars
XX
XX

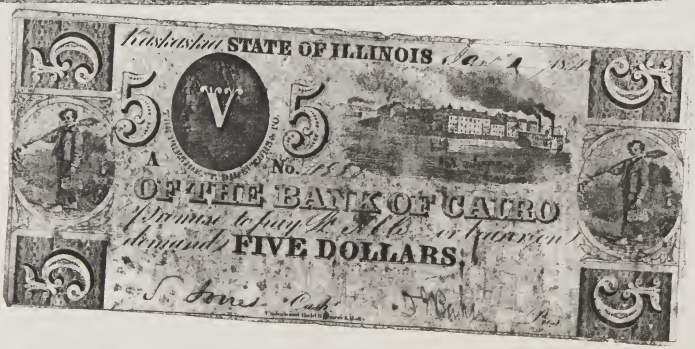

2
THE
Union Bank
OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE
TWO DOLLARS
2
NASHVILLE

New-York
D
D
The GLOBE Bank
FIVE HUNDRED
500

3
3
OF THE BANK OF CAIRO
STATE OF ILLINOIS

FIVE
FIVE
5
THE BANK OF CAIRO,
ILLINOIS,
FIVE DOLLARS
Cash
Pres.


5
V
5
OF THE BANK OF CAIRO
FIVE DOLLARS.
Cash
Pres.


STATE OF ILLINOIS
5
V
5
OF THE BANK OF CAIRO
FIVE DOLLARS.
Cash
Pres.

Early American Coins & Currency
American, Canadian, & English Tokens
English, Irish, & Scottish Hammered Coins
Spain & Spanish America
France & French Colonies in America
Dutch, Portugal, & Russian Coins
Roman & Medieval Coinage

ROBERT A. VLACK
"NUMISMATIST"
~~8 LaPerle Avenue~~
~~Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865~~
~~Tel.~~ (603) 382-6030

18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, Conn. 06804

September 21, 1982

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63105

Dear Eric,

Thank you for sending the notes, here is the outcome with my comments:

Illinois, BANK OF CAIRO (STATE OF ILLINOIS), $5, I've seen this before but didn't buy because it was a rag. I will offer you for this note $45

Illinois, BANK OF CAIRO, $20. again all I saw of this was a rag in someone else collection. As far as not being listed in Wismer, I have many notes ~~listed in~~ not listed. I need it though. $55

Massachusetts, NAHANT BANK, $20. $30

Missouri, BANK OF THE STATE OF MISSOURI, $20. I was at the Vacca Sale and was aghast at what two people was doing. They both was determined to get the Vacca notes and brought those record prices. Seeing as how the price was established, I would like to pay $250 for the note, but, I feel your comments led me to believe you want the $475 as part of the trade. $475

New York, THE WATERVLIET BANK, $1. I will buy this only because between the two notes, yours and the one I have, I will use mine to repair yours. These are common notes. $15

New York, THE WATERVLIET BANK, $2. Yours is an improvement over mine except mine does not have the hole cancellation. $30

All the others I have in better condition. My New York GLOBE BANK is also missing much of the left border so this is no help.

On the 1756 Maryland note, I have no idea who put it togeather, I bought it that way, however, I do have means for restoring notes and can perhaps do a better job. If you wish, I will look at the note and see what I can do. If I do not believe I can fix it better, I will not attempt to do so.

All the prices I offered you on the notes above are full retail and I am very knowledgeable in this field now since I have been living with it for the past three years now. I think you will agree they are most fair. Was disappointed in not getting the Tennessee note, are you sure about not being the right date?

Gotta go.

Sincerely, Bob

Medlar Auction 9/25/81 of Bh of Cairo

#268 $3 Bh of Cairo Vg 25.00

#269 $5 Cupids vg ragged edges 15.00

#271 $2 Woman + child vg. 25.00

#272 $3 ships vg 30.00

273 $5 Steamboat edges rough vg 25.00

274 $10 River Scene Uno 45.00

~~275 $1 Bronze~~ Proof $1 310

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

September 28, 1982

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, CT 06804

Dear Bob:

I was glad to help you somewhat on your special era bank note collection. I am enclosing

$5 Bk. of Cairo (State of Illinois on top)	- $45
$20 Nabant Bank. Congreve Patent back	- 30
$20 Bk. of State of Mo.	- 475
$1 Watervliet Bank	- 15
$2 Watervliet Bank	- 30
	$595

The only note which I feel you materially undervalued is the $20 Bank of Cairo. It is really very scarce and should carry a $200 value in my opinion. It was not in Glenn Smedley's collection and he lived in Illinois for endless years gathering banknotes. It was not in Wismer, but that does not prove too much as you state. If you change your mind, let me know. If you do not, there is no harm done.

I am sending the $2 Union Bank of Tennessee for you to probe. I left it out of my last mailing because I could not read the date. Perhaps the bank information or your data might help date it. You value it if it is wanted.

I have the four Maryland October 17, 1780 pieces at $6,000 for the set, the Maryland 20 Shilling, 1756 at $1,500 and the $100 Maryland 1778 at $165 and am buying them.

I have a $50 credit from the last transaction and $595 credit for the notes priced by you. This leaves a net balance due from me of $7,020.

I enclose part of the money and will pay the balance when a certificate of deposit comes due on October 8, 1982.

Now it's your turn to send the Vase of Flowers and other items previously requested.

I hope you enjoy your new homesite and that your recent problems are adjusted to even though never very acceptable.

My very best,

Eric P. Newman

jah
Encls.

Vlack file

September 29, 1982

Eric P. Newman Numismatic Education Society
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, MO 63105

Gentlemen:

There is donated to you the following bank notes in order to enable you to trade them to acquire certain pieces for your collection. The values stated are the credit being allowed by the seller of the items you are acquiring. It is a pleasure to be of help.

1/1/1840	$5 Bank of Cairo #4588	$ 45
1/1/1834	$20 Nahant Bank # -	30
4/3/1838	$2 Watervliet Bank #6473A	30
3/1/1840	$1 Watervliet Bank #9831B	15
11/1/1838	$20 Bank of the State of Missouri #9A	475
		$ 595

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

P.S. The following pieces are being acquired from Robert Vlack by you.

1756 Maryland 20 shilling	$ 1,500.00
Set of 4 Maryland fractional specie notes of 1780	6,000.00
1778 North Carolina $100 note	165.00
	$ 7,665.00
Allowance for above exchange	595.00
Payment by EPNNES	$ 7,070.00

Early American Coins & Currency
American, Canadian, & English Tokens
English, Irish, & Scottish Hammered Coins
Spain & Spanish America
France & French Colonies in America
Dutch, Portugal, & Russian Coins
Roman & Medieval Coinage

ROBERT A. VLACK
"NUMISMATIST"
~~8 LaPerle Avenue~~
~~Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865~~
~~Tel. (603) 382-6030~~

18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, Conn. 06804

October 8, 1982

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63105

Dear Eric,

All things considered, here we go again on a lot of loose odds and ends.

Data on the French piece enclosed, it looks okay to me, it is not rare, hoards have been found, value about $40 to $50.

Regarding the Illinois note "BANK OF CAIRO", $20. You feel the note is worth $200, I offered $55. Your offer is based upon the fact it is not in the Smedley Sale, I have 10 notes of Illinois not in the Smedley Sale, and that is just of my period. Anyhow, I don't feel it is worth the $200 based upon that assumption though I will admit the only specimen I have seen was Dr. Muscalus's and it was a real bow-wow, I wouldn't have paid $5. I will up my offer to $125.00 but that will be tops since someday I will have to sell it when all my research is over with and I would like to at least recoup my money. So much for Illinois.

Regarding the Tennessee note "UNION BANK", you were right in the original date, it has a printed date of January 2, 1843, however, the 43 of the date has been written over with a 61, apparently either as a reissue, an attempt to defraud, or some other meaning. I just purchased 4 Tennessee notes while in Staunton Virginia and average price was $45, the highest being $75 for a very nice note. I will offer you $55 for this note.

Enclosed are five notes, all recent purchases, can you answer any of these questions?

Where is Mary Ann Farms, who is Jacob Benner, and when was the note issued, and have you ever seen any of these signed? Any other information would help. Dr. Muscalus thinks it was a Socialistic Commune.

The two Woodville notes, any ideas? There is a Woodville in Mississippi. I am just trying to confirm the State of issue.

The Rochester note has a pencilled in 1837 is this the actual date of issue, and is the signature S.R. Devy?

The Hyde Park note, is the signature John Calter, Eatter, Catter, what is your opinion?

Okay, here we go on the enclosed notes. Everything I am to send has been priced out years ago because of the separation and all that and I will not play games with pricing to you or anyone else for that matter. If you want anything, you will buy, if not, then return and it will be offered to someone else at the same price.

I've enclosed my entire New York collection prior to 1771 as you had requested. I don't have to tell you these are most difficult to obtain in any condition, like the early New Jersey notes, and when a decent note appeared, it usually went high. I am actually surprised at some of the prices I paid for these, but, the condition warranted it in some cases. I am sure you noticed the North Carolina note. If this completes your set you are to be congratulated since I know of no one who has done this. I was only 3 away, now 4 so far. Now down to the pricing of all of this:

North Carolina, April 2, 1776, $1/16 - Vase of Flowers, #12260	$300.00
New York, March 25, 1755, 1 Pound, # ?	75.00
" " , " " " , 5 Pounds, #5510 ?	450.00
" " , " " " , 10 " , # ?	165.00
" " , May 12, 1755, , 1 Pound, #8630	300.00
" " , April 20, 1756, 3 Pounds, #3425	165.00
" " , " " " , 5 Pounds, #3377 ?	190.00
" " , " " " , 10 Pounds, #7390	450.00
" " , April 15, 1758, 5 Pounds, #9305	165.00
" " , " " " , 10 Pounds, #799 ?	250.00
" " , April 2, 1759, 2 Pounds #11559	90.00
" " , " " " , 5 Pounds, #11018	115.00
" " , " " " , 10 Pounds, #17352	225.00
" " , April 21, 1760, 2 Pounds, #5773	60.00
" " , " " " , 5 Pounds, #1548	110.00
" " , " " " , 10 Pounds, #8095	110.00

That should keep you ammused for a wee bit. If you must know, a few of these prices I am quoting to you are exactly what I paid for them, I just didn't think they were worth any more.

Last but not least, check for any more notes for me, remember the period I am after is 1831 to 1845 inclusive. Don't forget to send the Illinois note, I feel I will be paying top dollar for a note of that condition.

I trust all else is well, and it is good to be communicating with you again. We go back a long way.

Warmest regards,

Copy

10/25/82

Bob Vlack —

Dear Bob —

The New York pieces were about the quality of mine. They do come better, but I find that most of them are well patched and so yours are quite collectable but it doesn't help me. Let's go on to some other notes. Send whatever you wish.

The mystery pieces I have commented on and I hope some of my comments help you, even though guesses.

I am glad the Union Bank of Tenn was in your time zone. I am not too pleased about the $1.25 for the Illinois note but since you want it it will do no good sitting here as I won't sell it for money. These notes give me $55 plus $1.25 credit against the Vase of Flowers for $3.00 — I put my head in the Lion's mouth when I told you it would finish me but you only bit off my scalp. It is crazy to get satisfaction on completing the set but it is a zoo and all the animals are in the ark now. The $10 Bk of Cairo is enclosed.

Thanks for cleaning up the French piece problem.

Am also enclosing the balance on the last letter. All other items are returned.

Please keep your principles as a rare example in the coin business. I am sure you are proud of them.

Kindest regards

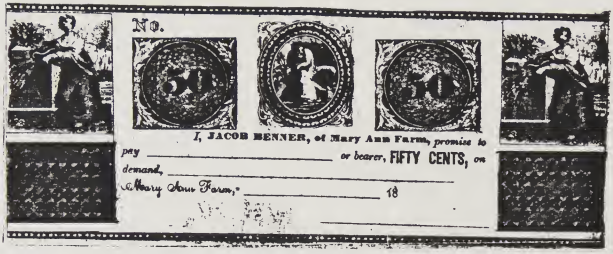
P.S. I also enclose a 50¢ (1837?) note which is signed by the pres + cashier (proof) but I what? the printer is J. Neale, 6 John St, N.Y. What is it. Do you want to buy it for applying on other purchases by me?

Balance due from last purchase	$30.00
N.C $1.16 Vase of flowers	3.00
$1 Union Bank Tenn $.55 — $10 Bk of Cairo $1.25	1.80
Balance	$ 3.10

S.B. Dey
There were over 15 Rochesters then.
Locate Shepard Strong + Dawson
I guess Penna

John Cutler
?
NY
I think

Penna style

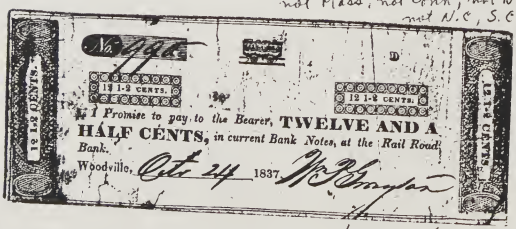


Woodville could be same as below

Edgar Praise.

I guess

Woodville near Pittsburgh
not Mass, not Conn, not N.Y, not Va,
not N.C, S.C or Ga, nor
Mass, Tex, where the
other Woodvilles
are.



Wm P. Grayson

Early American Coins & Currency
American, Canadian, & English Tokens
English, Irish, & Scottish Hammered Coins
Spain & Spanish America
France & French Colonies in America
Dutch, Portugal, & Russian Coins
Roman & Medieval Coinage

ROBERT A. VLACK
"NUMISMATIST"
~~6 LaPerle Avenue~~
~~Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865~~
~~Tel.~~ (603) 382-6030

18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, Conn. 06804

November 6, 1982

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63105

Dear Eric,

I thought I would finish up the New York Series and go from there. Seeing that you are sending back so much, I will not bother sending the commoner series unless you have specific requests for improvements. What I will be sending will be the rarer material with odds that there will be something for you.

Enclosed the following:

New York - Albany - June 22, 2775 - 20 Shillings	$500.00
" " - " - February 17, 1776 - 1 Shilling	700.00
" " - " - " " " - 2 Shillings	700.00
" " - " - " " " - 4 Shillings	600.00
" " - June 15, 1780 - 20 Dollars - Hole cancelled	700.00
" " - April 18, 1786 - 5 Shillings	400.00

I also have the following small notes:

	February 20, 1790 - 1 Penny - VG-F	200.00
	" " " - 3 Pence - VG-F	200.00
dot here	June 22, 1790 - NEW YORK MANUFACTURING SOCIETY - 4 Pence-VG	250.00
	October 20, 1792 - LANSINGBURGH MUSEUM - 1 Penny - VF	350.00
dot here	February 18, 1793 - 4 Pence - F	250.00

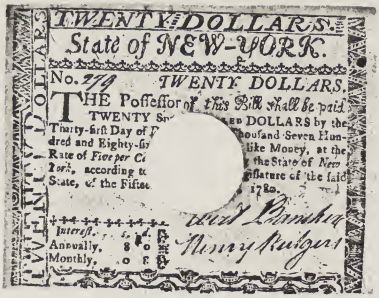
I am returning the Merchant Script note. These were issued by mainly New York merchants during the 1837 period, I have some dated from that time. I generally buy these from Douglas Ball in the neighborhood of $10 per note if undated. If dated, I go to $15 to $20 depending on condition. I certainly prefer dated naturally. If you want the $10 I will accept it. It is no big deal on these, the note itself is basic to many merchants and was used throughout New York.

I shall look forward to hearing from you in hopes there is something here that will please you.

Last but not forgotten, thanks for the efforts on the notes and especially the Oak Tree Shilling opinion.

Warmest regards,

Bob



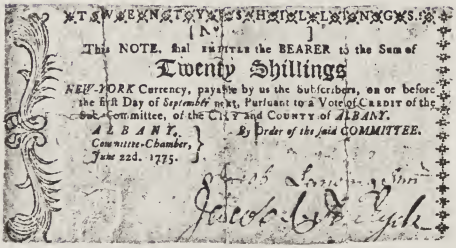
TWENTY DOLLARS.

State of NEW-YORK.

No. 779 TWENTY DOLLARS.

THE Possessor of this Bill shall be paid TWENTY Sp[illegible] DOLLARS by the Thirty-first Day of [illegible] Thousand Seven Hundred and Eighty-[illegible] like Money, at the Rate of Five per Ce[illegible] the State of New-York, according to [illegible] Assembly of the said State, of the Fifte[illegible] 1780.

Interest. d. s. d.
Annually, 8 0 [illegible]
Monthly, 0 8 [illegible]



TWENTY SHILLINGS.

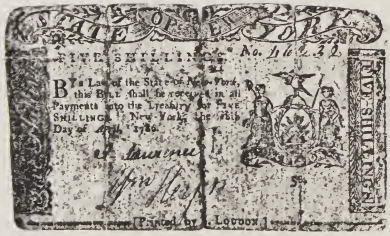
[No.]

This NOTE, shall ENTITLE the BEARER to the Sum of

Twenty Shillings

NEW-YORK Currency, payable by us the subscribers, on or before the first Day of September next, Pursuant to a Vote of CREDIT of the Sub-Committee, of the CITY and COUNTY of ALBANY.

ALBANY, Committee-Chamber, June 22d. 1775. } By Order of the said COMMITTEE.



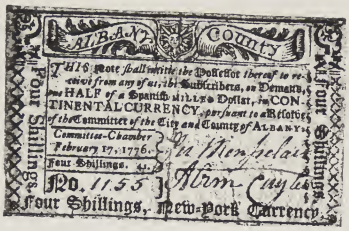
STATE OF NEW-YORK.

FIVE SHILLINGS. No. 16232.

BY a Law of the State of New-York, this Bill shall be received in all Payments into the Treasury for FIVE SHILLINGS New-York Currency. Given the [illegible] Day of April, 1780.

FIVE SHILLINGS

[Printed by J. Loudon]


ALBANY COUNTY

THIS Note shall entitle the Possessor thereof to receive from any of us, the Subscribers, on Demand, HALF of a Spanish MILLED Dollar, in CONTINENTAL CURRENCY, pursuant to a Resolve of the Committee of the City and County of ALBANY.

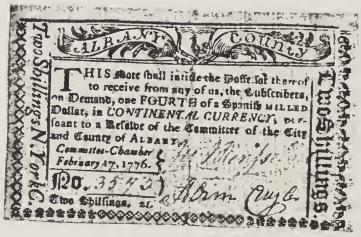
Committee-Chamber February 17. 1776.

Four Shillings. 4s.

No. 1155

Four Shillings. New-York Currency.

Four Shillings.


ALBANY COUNTY

THIS Note shall entitle the Possessor thereof to receive from any of us, the Subscribers, on Demand, one FOURTH of a Spanish MILLED Dollar, in CONTINENTAL CURRENCY, pursuant to a Resolve of the Committee of the City and County of ALBANY.

Committee-Chamber February 17. 1776.

No. 3542

Two Shillings. 2s.

Two Shillings. N.Y. Cur.

Two Shillings.

ALBANY COUNTY

THIS Note shall entitle the Possessor thereof to receive from any of us, the Subscribers, on Demand, one EIGHTH of a Spanish MILLED DOLLAR, in CONTINENTAL CURRENCY, pursuant to a Resolve of the Committee of the City and County of ALBANY.

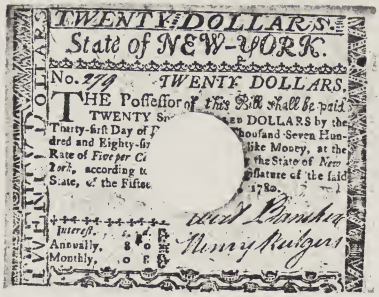
Committee-Chamber February 17. 1776.

No. 4321

One Shilling. 1s.

One Shilling. N.Y. Cur.

One Shilling.



TWENTY DOLLARS.

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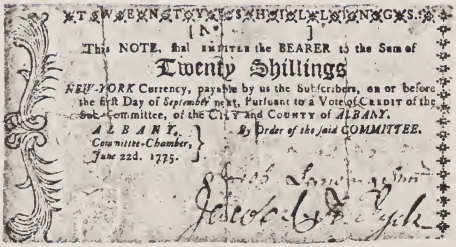
Interest.	£.	s.	d.
Annually,	8	0	0
Monthly,	0	8	0



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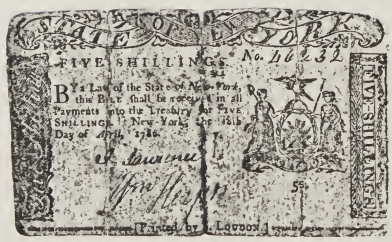
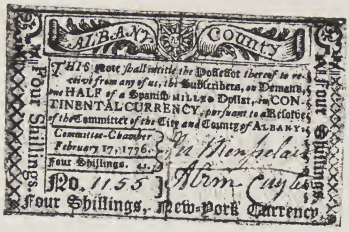


STATE OF NEW-YORK

FIVE SHILLINGS. No. 16632

By a Law of the State of New-York, this Bill shall be received in all Payments into the Treasury for FIVE SHILLINGS New-York, the 18th Day of April, 1786.

Printed by L. Loudon



ALBANY COUNTY

Four Shillings.

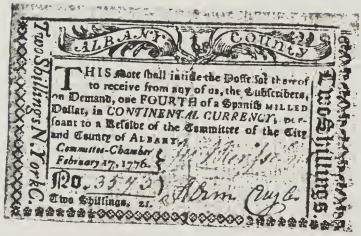
THIS Note shall entitle the Possessor thereof to receive from any of us, the Subscribers, on Demand, one HALF of a Spanish MILLED Dollar, in CONTINENTAL CURRENCY, pursuant to a Resolve of the Committee of the City and County of ALBANY.

Committee-Chamber February 17. 1776.

Four Shillings. 4s.

No. 1155

Four Shillings. New-York Currency.



ALBANY COUNTY

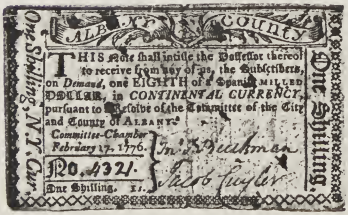
Two Shillings.

THIS Note shall entitle the Possessor thereof to receive from any of us, the Subscribers, on Demand, one FOURTH of a Spanish MILLED Dollar, in CONTINENTAL CURRENCY, pursuant to a Resolve of the Committee of the City and County of ALBANY.

Committee-Chamber February 17. 1776.

No. 3543

Two Shillings. 2s.



ALBANY COUNTY

One Shilling.

THIS Note shall entitle the Possessor thereof to receive from any of us, the Subscribers, on Demand, one EIGHTH of a Spanish MILLED DOLLAR, in CONTINENTAL CURRENCY, pursuant to a Resolve of the Committee of the City and County of ALBANY.

Committee-Chamber Febrbary 17. 1776.

No. 4321.

One Shilling. 1s.

file

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

January 4, 1983 (Mailed Jan 5, 1982)

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
18 Mist Hill Dr.
Brookfield, CT 06804

Dear Bob:

I know that I have held your New York pieces too long, but it was difficult for me to make a decision with respect to them. The ones I do not have were not of sufficient importance for me to enjoy at your prices. I am not saying that they are not worth what you are asking, as they are rare. The pieces are returned herewith.

As a matter of fact, I would be much happier to buy the New York Manufacturing Society Note if you still have it.

I hope that you gather in many more items for your collection at the NASCA Auction. I realize it must be very difficult to be both a collector and a dealer, and I am sure you can handle that in stride.

Don't let the return of these items constitute a rejection as perhaps you can list or send other pieces which you are ready to dispose of.

My best regards for the New Year!

Sincerely,

Eric

Eric P. Newman

jah
Encls.

REGISTERED MAIL #R 031-631-522

$2,000 - 4.20
post. .88
$5.08

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American, Canadian, & English Tokens
English, Irish, & Scottish Hammered Coins
Spain & Spanish America
France & French Colonies in America
Dutch, Portugal, & Russian Coins
Roman & Medieval Coinage

ROBERT A. VLACK
"NUMISMATIST"
~~6 LaPerle Avenue~~
~~Peaistow, New Hampshire 03865~~
~~Tel. (603) 382-6030~~
18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, Conn. 06804

December 16, 1982

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63105

Dear Eric,

Sent you a bunch of notes on the 6th of November and haven't heard from you, so, I am beginning to wonder what the story is? Have you received them? If not, I can start a claims proceeding against the U.S. Post Office.

If you have received them, I would like to know the status since there is someone else who might be interested in buying some of the notes from the New York area.

Not much else is new except I heard there is a large consignment of notes to be offered in January by NASCA and many of them will be the Colonials. I have to rush back from the f.u.n. Show in Florida just to attend the sale.

I just reviewed the Pine Tree Shilling that Stack's had for sale which he thought might be a new variety. I read your conclusion on the piece and agree completely, that it is a counterfeit similar to the Noe 13 and 14. This is the piece that resembled the Noe 2. Incidentally I also have the piece in my counterfeit collection. One thing not noticeable on the Stack's piece is that the legend is retrograde, going counterclockwise. My specimen shows this very nicely.

Will look forward to hearing from you, and in the meantime, have a pleasant holiday and a good year to come.

Very sincerely,

Bob

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"NUMISMATIST"
~~8 LaPerle Avenue~~
~~Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865~~
~~Tel. (603) 382-6030~~

18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, Conn. 06804

July 23, 1984

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63105

Dear Eric,

Sorry I didn't get a chance to get togeather with you last week, you was very pressed I know, and so was I.

I would appreciate a couple of favors. Number one, when you get the letter of confirmation that the Birch Cent is deemed as genuine, I would like to know so I could notify the Bank in Virginia of the situation, they are somewhat anxious since it has been over a year now the material of Jack Roper left their hands.

Secondly, I am finally stirred to get the Sous-marque book finished, which unfortunately was laid down for a couple of weeks five years ago. I would now like to finish it. So, as per the request I mentioned, I would appreciate your sending to me all of your Sous-marques and Half sous-marques for examination. I won't keep them for any length of time since I have some other collections coming in as well, though I am taking them one at a time.

I decided against going to Detroit even though I am to be awarded my 25 year ANA pin. Somehow, Detroit just isn't my cup of tea, and it would be just my luck that it was a great event and I would have missed it all. Hope you have fun.

Lastly, I was truly sorry to have missed out on the ANA trip, I did want to go very badly. Unfortunately, it tied in with the Memphis Paper Money show, and that is extremely important to me. It was unfortunate that one was business, the other would have been pure pleasure. I cannot afford the luxury of pure pleasure, I still have to maintain a business, so, the trip had to go. I heard it was great fun and I trust it went well.

Well, I shall look forward to hearing from you.

Warmest regards,

Bob

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

July 30, 1984

Mr. Robert Vlack
18 Mist HIll Drive
Brookfield, CT 06804

Dear Bob:

I have only 7 Sous-marque items and 3 half Sous-marque items. I am enclosing a list made long ago by someone else (possibly you) and my notations are in handwriting.

I am almost sure that you saw my pieces and checked them out, but your files will indicate the facts. Will you be nice enough to check your data and let me know what you find.

Kindest regards,

Eric P. Newman

jah

Encl.

Collection of Eric P. Newman

1739 Marque Unc Brill H Mint 5 point of star ✓
1739 Marque, Dull silver Edge dent xf D Mint 5 pointed star ✓
1740 " Unc. Brill E Mint Heart Die break at D of D G, R ✓
1742 " Die break at D of LUD unc BB Mint ✓
1742 " Green Corrosion otherwise unc. H Mint 5 point of star ✓
1751 " Copper vf BB Mint 5 points of start ✓
1755 " Copper vf A Mint
1755 " Dull Grey A Mint Copper showing thru .vf ✓ Beaner ✓
1755 " Dark Grey A Mint xf ✓ Beaner

1740 Half Sou Marque G Mint Unc ✓
1740 " " " AA Mint .Dark. Small planchet ✓
1740 " " " B Mint ✓

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~~6 LaPerle Avenue~~
~~Plaistow, New Hampshire 03865~~
~~Tel. (603) 382-6030~~

18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, Conn. 06804

August 16, 1984

Mr.Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Mo. 63105

Dear Eric,

Thank you for your letter regarding the Sous-marques. The listing you sent was not done by me, the handwriting looks a bit like Ted Craige's, though that is only a guess. Anyhow, this is what I would like to propose if it is all right with you.

You have what I call photographic pieces and this is a stage I am only just getting into. I would like to suggest that when I get deeply into the business of photographing specimens for the book, then I will write again and request you send the pieces to me for this purpose. I already had a complete mint mark set photographed by the ANS, however, the results were far from satisfactory so I will learn to photograph coins myself.

So, to answer your question, no, you did not send these to me before, I think you may have remembered sending me a group of the St. Patrick Farthings for study purposes. Maybe you might have remembered reading it in Coin World, but one day about 5 years ago, I was planning a trip to the ANS while attending the G.E.N.A. Show in New York and while I was in the Hotel registering My car was cleaned out including all of my records which was in my brief case. The reason I mention this is even if I did have a record of your holdings, it would have been long since disposed of in the garbage.

Anyhow, I will write again when I need the specimens, and in the meantime your list will come in handy.

Kindest regards,

Bob

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

August 23, 1984

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, CT 06804

Dear Bob:

It is entirely possible that the Sous-marques list could have been made by Walter Breen. I am sure you are familiar with his article, including that subject in the 1976 Centennial publication of ANS.

Since my pieces are apparently only needed for photography, that can be arranged at the proper time.

Thanks for your letter.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6250 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

April 27, 1988

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, CT 06804

Dear Bob:

I appreciate very much your cooperation in sending the Virginia Bank Notes, etc.. I wish I could buy more, but my collection is apparently pretty good. My check for the £12 Virginia and the 40 Sh Penna is enclosed. I am hopeful that you will find the 1785 halfpence so that you can send this to me as promised.

I am temporarily retaining the £8 1773, the price of which should be cut in half. My reason is that the bottom part of the note has been deliberately cut off by the restorer, eliminating part of one signature and eliminating the blue printed lower border on the back. There are other very clever repairs made with the pieces which were cut off. I believe you will agree with me. I am enclosing photocopies of the note you could review.

Look what the clever restorer did on the $20 Mar. 1, 1781 as he drew in the left border denomination lettering superbly.

I am very glad that you have a customer for the Virginia pieces and to know the enthusiasm for the series.

I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely,

Eric P. Newman

jah

Encls.

VIRGINIA

March 4, 1773		
3 Pounds - Lg. Ashby	VF-EF	650
April 1, 1773		
1 Pound - James River	EF	700
3 " - " "	EF	700
5 " - " "	F	350
8 " - " "	F	750
12 " - " "	EF	850
July 17, 1775		
5 Shillings	VF	150
10 "	F-VF	125
I 12/6 "	VF	150
20 "	F	100
2 Pounds	VF	150
3 "	VF	150
July 17, 1775		
1 Pound - Lg. Ashby	VF	600
2 " - " "	VF-EF	750
5 " - " "	VF	600
September 1, 1775		
20 Shillings - James Riv.	VF	500
5 Pounds - " "	F	300
8 " - " "	Unc.	1100
10 " - " "	VF	500
12 " - " "	VF	500
May 6, 1776		
5/0	F-VF	125
10/0	F-VF	125
$4	VF	125
$5	VF	125
$10 OCT. 7, 1776	F-VF	65
$15 " " "	VF	80
May 5, 1777		
$2/3	F-VF	100
$5	F	80
$6	F	80
$8	VF	125
$10	EF	175
October 20, 1777		
$1/6	VG-F	50
$2/3	F	60
$4	VF	100
$6	VF	100
$8	AU	175
$15	VF	110
May 4, 1778		
$1/6	VF	250
I $2/3	EF	325
$4	VG-F	100
$5	VG-F	110
$7	VF	150
$10	VF-EF	250
$15	VF-EF	250

October 5, 1778		
$1	VG	80
$3	VF	150
$5	VF	150
$10	F	110
$15	VF	150
$50	VF-EF	300
May 3, 1779		
$50	EF	650
$100	F	400
May 1, 1780		
$1	Unc.	400
$2	"	400
$3	"	400
$4	"	400
$5	AU	375
$7	F-VF	300
$8	Unc.	400
$20	Unc.	500
July 14, 1780		
I $3 1/3	F-VF	125
$6 2/3	VF	150
$10	AU	250
$13 1/3	VF	150
$15	AU	275
$20	F-VF	125
$35	EF	250
$45	VF-EF	200
$55	AU	250
$60	EF	275
$80	Unc.	300
$100	VF	150
October 16, 1780		
$ 50	VF-EF	175
$200	AU	250
$300	Unc.	300
$400	AU	250
$500	Unc.	300
Clothing of Army		
$200	F	550
$400	VF	750
$500	F	500

VIRGINIA (2)

March 1, 1781		
$20 - Thick	VF-EF	175 ✓ nicked & patched
$50 - "	VF-EF	175 ✓
$50 - Thin	EF	250 ✓
$80 - Thick	VF-EF	175 ✓
$150 - Thick	VF	125
$150 - Thin	AU	300 ✓
$250 - Thick	VF	150 ✓
$250 - Thin	VF-EF	175
$500 - Thick	VF-EF	175
$500 - Thin	AU	300 ✓
$750 - Thick	VF	150 ✓
$750 - Thin	VF	150 ✓
$1000 - Thick	VF	150 ✓
$1000 - Thin	EF	250 ✓

May 1, 1781		
$ 10	VF	200 ✓
$ 15	AU	300
$ 25	VF	250 ✓
$ 35	VF-EF	250 ✓
$ 40	EF	300 ✓
$ 50	EF	300 ✓
$ 70	VF-EF	250 ✓
$100	VF-EF	250 ✓
$200	VF-EF	250 ✓
$500	Unc.	400
$1000	F-VF	225
$1500	EF	400 ✓
$2000	VF	400

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Roman & Medieval Coinage

ROBERT A. VLACK
"PROFESSIONAL NUMISMATIST"
18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, Conn. 06804
Tel. (203) 775-2456

April 2, 1988

Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric,

It was certainly good to see you again, and looking so well. That New York Show was certainly pretty exciting and I was really sorry you didn't get to buy that Continental Dollar 5-D, I feel you really wanted that. We all have to contend with the known idiot factor, initials DF, who buys anything anyone else wants although it was actually Tony who got the piece. He claims it was for stock for himself. One thing about coin collectors, there aren't many who tell the truth. Anyhow, let's get on with this.

Enclosed is a group of Virginia notes with a list. Those crossed off are sold. Those with a check after the price are those enclosed. The others are still in an album and are for sale, but, not packaged as these are. Now the reason for this is, a collector had purchased all of these from Virginia and I was to hold them aside for him. Since then, he lost his Company and can no longer purchase these, or, so the story goes. Those without the check as I said are for sale and I will forward any you wish to see.

I will ask one thing, be very careful if you have to take any of these out of the holders, especially this tissue paper kind. They come out easy enough but are difficult to get back in unless you know how to do it after some experience.

Many of these were bought during the great Periods through the late 70's and early 80's when many of these were going through the roof. Some of the prices are even lower than what I paid however I wanted to balance the whole thing off as a collection thus the prices as noted. Anyhow, have fun with these and get them back to me as soon as possible as I have had two inquiries about them, which I believe I mentioned to you.

Warmest regards,

Bob

PS Enclosed are the Pennsylvania notes I still have left

PENNSYLVANIA

March 10, 1757		
15/0	F	150
20/0	VG	100
March 20, 1758		
10/0	VG	100
15/0	VG	100
April 25, 1759		
20/0	VG	100
5 Pounds	VF	450
May 1, 1760		
10/0	VG	150
20/0	F	150
60/0	VG-F	125
March 1, 1769		
2/0	VG	200
30/0	VF	350
60/0	F-VF	500
March 10, 1769		
3 Pence	VG	125
4 "	G	100
6 "	G	100
9 "	VG	125
1/0	VF	150
1/6	G-VG	95
2/0	VG	100
2/6	G	75
5/0	VG	100
10/0	VG-F	125
15/0	VG-F	125
20/0	VG	100
April 3, 1772		
3 Pence	EF	80
4 "	VF	55
6 "	F	40
9 "	VG	30
1/0	VF-EF	60
1/6	VF-EF	60
2/0	F	35
2/6	Unc.	100
40/0	VF	150
March 20, 1773		
14/0	F	45
October 1, 1773		
1/6	F	20
2/0	F	30
2/6	VF	35
5/0	VF	30
10/0	VF	35
15/0	Unc.	65
50/0	VF-EF	45
Sheet of 3 notes		750

March 25, 1775		
4/0	VF	$70
6/0	VF	70
14/0	EF	100
April 10, 1775-Prison		
5 Pounds (A)	EF	125
5 " (B)	Unc.	150
July 20, 1775		
10/0	F	35
20/0	F	30
October 25, 1775		
3 Pence	AU	50
4 "	Unc.	70
6 "	VG-F	25
9 "	VF-EF	30
1/0	VG-F	25
1/6	Unc.	75
2/0	Unc.	60
2/6	EF	45
10/0	VF-EF	35
15/0	EF	40
20/0	VF-EF	45
December 8, 1775		
10/0	VF-EF	30
20/0	VF	30
30/0	F	30
40/0	AU	50
April 25, 1776		
3 Pence	VF	25
4 "	EF	40
9 "	AU	55
1/0	VF-EF	35
1/6	VF	30
2/0	VF	30
2/6	Unc.	80
10/0	EF	45
20/0	VF	40
30/0	VF-EF	45
40/0	Unc.	65
Sheet of 4 Unc.		300
April 10, 1777		
3 Pence	EF	30
4 "	Unc.	50
6 "	VF	20
9 "	Unc.	50
1/0	F	20
1/6	VF	25
2/0	VF	25
3/0	VF	25
4/0	EF	35
6/0	Unc.	60
8/0	VF	25
12/0	VF	25
16/0	VF-EF	30

April 10, 1777		
20/0	EF	$35
40/0 I	VF-EF	35
4 Pounds	VG	20
Same - Red Print		
1/0	VG-F	20
1/6	F	25
2/0	VF	35
3/0	F	20
4/0	F-VF	30
8/0	VF	35
12/0	VF	35
16/0	VF-EF	50
20/0	F	30
40/0	VF	45
4 Pounds	VF	45
April 29, 1780		
5/0	VF	450
June 1, 1780		
5/0	AU	500
April 20, 1781		
3 Pence	VF	140
6 "	AU	300
9 "	EF	200
1/6	VF	250
5/0	VF	180
15/0	VF-EF	200
30/0	Unc.	350
50/0	VG-F	150
March 16, 1785		
3 Pence	F-VF	115
1/6	VF	300
5/0	VG	65
10/0	VG	65
20/0	VF	300
August 6, 1789		
1 Penny	Unc.	900
3 Pence	Unc.	1200

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ROBERT A. VLACK
"PROFESSIONAL NUMISMATIST"
18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, Conn. 06804
Tel. (203) 775-2456

April 13, 1988

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric,

Nice talking to you today. I dug out the notes you requested and have enclosed same.

Pennsylvania - April 10, 1777 - Black - 40 Shillings	$35.00
Virginia - April 1, 1773 - 8 Pounds - James River Bank	750.00
" - " " " - 12 Pounds- " " "	850.00
Total	$1,635.00

If there are any others, give me a quick call.

Very sincerely,

RAV

SHIPPING REQUEST
PLEASE PRINT OR TYPE

Moore® Speedriset® MCP®

FROM:
EDISON BROTHERS STORES, INC.
501 NORTH BROADWAY ST. LOUIS, MO 63102

UPS SHIPPER #
MO 679-742
PKG. ID # 17239

MR. ROBERT A. VLACK
18 MIST HILL DRIVE
BROOKFIELD, CT 06804

SHIPMENT CONFIRMATION

SENDER'S INFORMATION

DESCRIPTION OF CONTENTS Numismatic material

AMOUNT OF INSURANCE REQUIRED (IF ANY) $ 1,000

NAME Eric P. Newman DEPT. Legal

DIVISION KBS EXPENSE CENTER NO. Personal

TELEPHONE EXTENSION 6540 FLOOR 5

DATE OF REQUEST 4/28/88

LATEST DATE AND TIME SHIPMENT MUST REACH DESTINATION
(ASAP IS NOT ACCEPTABLE)

DATE No Rush - [redacted] UPS

APPROVAL Julie Tapper

SHIPPING DEPARTMENT USE ONLY

COMMENTS

INITIALS OF SHIPPING CLERK

S & R-10 Rev. 6/85

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ROBERT A. VLACK
"NUMISMATIST"

Robert A. Vlack
18 Mist Hill Dr.
Brookfield, CT 06804

May 3, 1988

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric,

I just received your letter regarding the April 1, 1773 James River 8 Pound note. I have not received the balance of the other notes yet but assume they are on their way.

Regarding the note you have, I can and will cut the price to $650 for you but no less for two reasons. One, below that amount I will not make any money for all the time I had the note, and secondly, the other collector will buy the note with no discount. I will allow the discount to you and you only since we have been good friends for years. Incidentally, I am open to trading for obsolete notes from the 1830 to 1845 providing I need the notes, this is always the case.

I am sorry I could not add any others to your collection but will keep you in mind when I decide to make up another list from another colony.

If you decide against the James River note, don't hesitate to send it back, there will be no problem.

Very sincerely,

Bob

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ROBERT A. VLACK
"PROFESSIONAL NUMISMATIST"
18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, Conn. 06804
Tel. (203) 775-2456

June 15, 1988

Mr. Eric P. Newman
6450 Cecil Avenue
St. Louis, Missouri 63105

Dear Eric,

It has been six weeks since I last wrote to you regarding the April 1, 1773 James River Bank 8 Pound note. I would like to know the status of this as I have another buyer for it, and that is without the discount I offered you.

I would appreciate your giving this some attention, please.

Very sincerely,

Bob

6/24/88.
check sent
inquired about
1755 1/2d ctf

ERIC P. NEWMAN NUMISMATIC EDUCATION SOCIETY

6450 Cecil Avenue, St. Louis, Missouri 63105

October 13, 1995

Mr. Robert A. Vlack
18 Mist Hill Drive
Brookfield, CT 06804

Dear Bob:

Enclosed are photocopies of money type advertising sheets which I have in our collection. I am sure you have the notes but may not have them in the sheet form as they were originally printed for the trade to overprint.

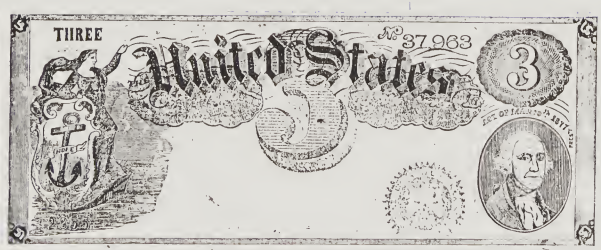
It was very pleasant talking to you. Have a nice winter in Florida.

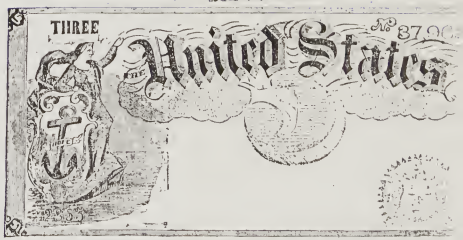
Sincerely,

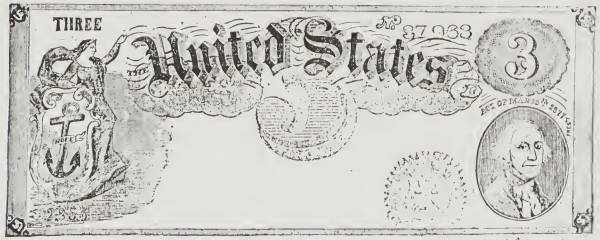
Eric P. Newman

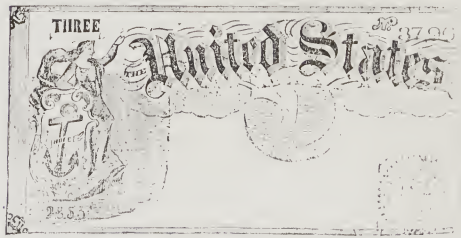
EPN:bv

I think this was a sheet of 6 originally
It is in a museum case and I cant check it. It
is now only 4 It differs from the other sheet as you
know









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